

# Jordan Times

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## Saddam receives Tunisian message

NICOSIA (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had talks Saturday with Tunisian Justice Minister Chadli Mefluti who gave him a message from President Zine A. Abidine Ben Ali. Iraqi radio said the message dealt with "the close and brotherly relations between the two fraternal countries as well as the latest developments in the region. The Tunisian minister stressed that the Tunisian leadership and people supported Iraq in the face of threats at this decisive historic stage in the life of the Arab Nation." Tunisia's new Foreign Minister Habib Boularef conferred separately Thursday with his counterparts from Saudi Arabia and Italy, current president of the European Community, on efforts to resolve the Gulf crisis. Officials said Ben Ali was sending special envoys to Arab states, Europe, the United States and China on what they described as a mediation mission.

## Kuwait Airways to rebase in Cairo

NICOSIA (R) — Kuwait Airways Corp announced Saturday it would move its headquarters to Cairo and planned to lease 18 of its aircraft that were outside Kuwait when Iraq invaded a month ago, the Kuwaiti News Agency (KUNA) reported. It said Kuwait Airways Director Ahmad Al Mashari was asked by the ousted government to take all steps necessary for managing the company's affairs from abroad and providing urgent services to Kuwaitis stranded throughout the world. KUNA, in a report sent to Reuters in Cyprus, quoted Mashari as saying in a statement released in London that the company would be rebased in the Egyptian capital sometime this month. He said contacts with international airlines were under way for leasing 18 Kuwait Airways planes that were outside the emirate when the Iraqis invaded Aug. 2. The statement added that 15 other passenger planes of all types were "hijacked" by the Iraqi authorities and that negotiations were taking place through diplomatic channels and insurance companies to get them back.

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## Ex-senator dies

AMMAN (Petra) — Ex-senator Abdul Rahman Khalifa died Saturday at the age of 74. Parliamentary speakers announced. Khalifa was born in Salt in 1916, and graduated from the University of Damascus with a degree in law. He worked as a lawyer, served as minister and was elected to the Lower House of Parliament and later appointed to the Senate. Khalifa served as chief of the Royal Court during the reign of the late King Abdullah Ben Ali Hussein, the founder of the Kingdom.

## Bush to ask Congress to forgive Egypt's debt

KENNEDYPORT (R) — U.S. President George Bush said Saturday he plans to recommend to Congress that Egypt's \$7-billion debt to the United States be forgiven to help it overcome grave financial problems worsened by the Gulf crisis. Asked at a news conference what he planned to do, Bush said: "The steps that I'd have to take is to — to make any recommendations along that line to the United States Congress, and my gut instinct is to do that." Egypt had been a "stalwart" in the Gulf crisis, he added. "They do have grave financial problems, and I want very much to work with President Mubarak to alleviate these problems," he said.

## 'Iraq begins food rationing'

NEW YORK (R) — Iraq has set up food distribution centres and issued coupons to prepare for the start of food rationing Saturday, the New York Times reported. Quoting three unidentified U.S. government officials, the newspaper said Saturday that Baghdad also was urging city dwellers to join relatives in the countryside. Strained by a U.N. trade embargo, Baghdad has already begun informally rationing food by limiting the quantities it released to stores from stockpiles, the officials said. The government has been issuing food coupons and setting up food distribution centres in preparation, they said.

## Qatar opens air base to U.S. jets

DOHA (R) — Twenty-four U.S. F-16 fighters began joint exercises Saturday with the 13-Mirage air force of Qatar, a tiny emirate which was the last of the Gulf Arab states to open its bases to American forces during the crisis over Kuwait. "We are mixed up whether we like it or not," Lieutenant-Colonel Ahmad Al Khamari, commander of the Qatari air force, told the first Western journalists ever to visit his only airbase. "We are in the middle of it. We are a target," he told reporters accompanying visiting British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd.

## Iran: \$25 oil after Gulf crisis

NICOSIA (R) — Iran said Saturday it expected crude oil prices not to fall below \$25 per barrel even after the Gulf crisis. Iranian spokesman quoted Oil Minister Gholamreza Azghadeh as saying: "We hope that with the resolution of the crisis, \$25 per barrel will be observed as the minimum price." Azghadeh was speaking on a live programme on Tehran Radio, said the television, monitored in Cyprus. Oil prices have dropped about \$5 from peaks of more than \$31 after last month's seizure of Kuwait by Iraq, both key members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

## Pakistani 'ready-to-die' troops in S. Arabia

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan began sending troops to Saudi Arabia Saturday, their commander, calling them "soldiers of Islam" ready to die for a cause. The first batch of about 350 men flew to the southern Saudi base of Khafra, and Pakistani army officials said more were likely to leave later in the day and the full force of a 5,000-strong infantry brigade would be moved in a few days. The troops chanted "Allah-o-Akbar" before boarding a Saudi Airlines TriStar in full battle dress and carrying only small arms.

## Iraq seeks U.N. interaction with Arab efforts

# U.N. chief, Aziz end talks with 'better understanding'

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz ended two days of talks on the Gulf crisis Saturday with no apparent sign of a breakthrough but with better understanding of each other's position.

In comments to the press after the talks, the Iraqi minister appeared to leave the door open for further U.N. efforts in conjunction with Arab leaders to resolve the one-month-old crisis, which has raised fears of a military confrontation between Iraq and

U.S.-led forces deployed in the Gulf.

A source close to the talks said Perez de Cuellar and Aziz did not reach "the stage of making any specific proposals, given the nature of Perez de Cuellar's mandate" — which calls on the U.N. chief to ensure the implementation of a series of Security Council resolutions which in essence calls on Iraq to withdraw its forces from Kuwait and allow the reinstatement of the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah. Iraq has rejected the resolutions, accusing the Security Council of bias.

"Perez de Cuellar was clear that he understood the Iraqi position very well," said the source.

"As an experienced diplomat, he also understood that Iraq was not given a chance to present its case."

According to the source, Aziz reiterated his country's call for comprehensively addressing all conflicts in the Middle East. "Perez de Cuellar was not going to promise Iraq anything," added the source. "But then, the question is whether he would try to reflect this understanding in the rest of the United Nations."

"The Americans, much as they want to stick to their original position of insisting on Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and reinstatement of the Al Sabah family, might have in listen to Perez de Cuellar," observed the source. "This would give a chance to what Aziz was essentially saying..."

quiet diplomacy..."

Emerging from their last one-hour session held at the Royal Palace, neither Perez de Cuellar nor Aziz gave any substantive details of their talks.

In a brief statement, Aziz repeated that this country did not have a "chance of present its case in the Security Council" before the big powers "hasn't" adopted a series of resolutions condemning it. He did not indicate whether his country would seek an opportunity to present its case, but appeared to call on the U.N., with which Iraq shares the "common goals of peace, stability and justice," to cooperate with Arab efforts to end the crisis sparked by Iraq's takeover of Kuwait Aug. 2.

Reiterating his country's stand that the crisis could not be resolved except

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# Sugar, rice and dry milk rationed

By Abdullah Hasanat  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government Saturday partially lifted food subsidies on three basic commodities, excluding bread.

The measure, which takes effect as of Sept. 1, affects the prices of sugar, rice and powdered milk.

The move was welcomed by parliamentarians and economists, but people interviewed by the Jordan Times complained that the quantity of "rationed" commodities was not enough.

At a press conference held at the ministry of supply, Ibrahim Ayoub, the minister, said the government would issue ration

cards and coupons for Jordanian family-book holders and Gazans residing in the Kingdom.

According to the minister, rice, sugar and powdered milk will have a two-tier pricing system — one subsidised and the other at actual market cost. Every family member will be entitled to 1 1/2 kilograms of sugar and 1 1/2 kilograms of rice every month and one kilogramme of powdered milk every six months, Ayoub said.

The subsidised price for sugar and rice will be 150 fils per kilogramme (a rise of 10 fils). Milk will stay at the current price of JD 1 per kilo, the minister said. Market prices will be 360 fils per kilo of sugar, 300 fils per kilo of rice and

JD 1.6 per kilo of powdered milk, he said.

Parliament deputies Fakhri Kwar, Issa Mdanat and Mohammad Farris Tarawneh welcomed the move. "This would save the treasury big amounts of funds and would rationalise consumption," said Tarawneh.

Kwar said that he thought the ration per month per person was not enough. "Many people depend on sugar in their diet, especially the poor," he said. "If the quantity proves to be low we'll urge the government to increase it."

Mdanat said the measure was necessitated by the present circumstances in the region. "This is an exceptional situation," he said. "We should reconsider the state of (economic) relaxation we become leading."

Economists also welcomed the

move.

President of the Jordan Banks Association, Dr. Abdullah Malki welcomed the measure and predicted it would save the treasury between JD 20-30 million annually.

Another economist, who did not wish to be named, said the measure represented a "long-term gradual process" of lifting subsidies that the IMF and many economists were calling for.

Economist Faded Al Fanek told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that subsidy of basic food commodities had cost the treasury a great deal. At the same time limited income groups did not benefit alone from this subsidy, because they shared it with tourists, non-Jordanian workers living in the

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## Cairo meeting backs Iraq trade embargo

CAIRO (Agencies) — Twelve Arab states voiced their support Saturday for efforts to cut off Iraq's trade lifeline to force it out of Kuwait but Egypt warned patience had limits.

"I do not think there is a time limit for the peace process... but patience has its limits," Egypt's Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid told reporters at the end of an Arab League foreign ministers meeting in Cairo.

Thirteen Arab states, including Libya, attended the meeting but Iraq and seven others stayed away.

Libya was the only participant to voice reservations on five resolutions reached by the mainly pro-Western foreign ministers in two days of talks.

The Arab League resolutions called for Iraq's immediate and unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait, freedom for Western hostages held in Iraq and Kuwait and payment for war damages incurred by the Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait.

The ministers called on Iraq to

guarantee the safety of Arab nationals in Iraq and Kuwait and the freedom of embassies in Kuwait to operate.

"We must face the situation with seriousness. We do not accept time-squandering," Abdul Meguid said.

The Arab ministers also dealt a heavy blow to efforts to float peace plans which would give equal priority to withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and foreign forces from the Gulf and Saudi Arabia.

The Cairo meeting demanded that any Arab initiative should be first discussed at the Arab League and include as top priority Iraq's unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait and the return of the exiled ruling Al Sabah family to power.

Meguid said all those who attended agreed that the deployment of foreign troops in Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states was a result of the Iraqi invasion.

The Egyptian minister and Arab officials said most of the countries who boycotted the Cairo meeting still opposed the occupation of Kuwait and its annexation.

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## Qadhafi launches Gulf peace plan

TRIPOLI (Agencies) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi Saturday announced a seven-point peace plan to end Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

As outlined by Qadhafi in a press conference, the plan does not clearly endorse two important factors shared in all United Nations and Arab League resolutions on the crisis: The unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops and the restoration of Kuwait's emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

Qadhafi, speaking on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of his coming to power in a military coup, said his plan had been drawn up after consultations with Iraq, Jordan and Sudan. He claimed that all Arab parties have encouraged it.

According to his plan, Iraqi troops would withdraw from Kuwait and be replaced by United Nations forces. American and other foreign forces, deployed in Saudi Arabia, would also leave and be replaced by

Arab or Muslim troops.

Qadhafi said that the U.N.'s international oil and economic embargo would be simultaneously lifted with these measures. The Libyan leader proposed that Iraq be given the Kuwaiti Bubiyan and Warba islands and Rumaila oil field, both in border areas which Iraq claims.

Qadhafi said Kuwaiti people would then be given the opportunity to choose their government, "Sabah family or not."

"Kuwait's internal political system should be left to the Kuwaiti people. It is not up to us to talk about who should rule Kuwait and whether the Al Sabah family should return or not," Qadhafi said.

Libyan and several other Arab states have condemned the Iraqi invasion but sharply criticised the deployment of foreign forces in the Gulf. Qadhafi called for the lifting of an international blockade of Iraqi ports.

Libya was expected to seek support for the plan when foreign ministers of the Arab Maghreb Union — which

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# Bush, Gorbachev to meet on Gulf in Helsinki Sept. 9

LONDON — U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev will meet next Sunday in Helsinki, Finland, to discuss the Gulf crisis and other international matters, U.S. and Soviet officials said.

"We have many matters to discuss," Bush told reporters in Maine.

In Moscow, Soviet Television said that the two would meet in Helsinki next Sunday.

An announcement, read on the main evening news programme, said international and bilateral issues would be discussed.

It did not elaborate, but the meeting was likely to be dominated by the Gulf crisis and disarmament questions.

Bush said he was reluctant to say that the meeting was about the crisis in the Middle East, but acknowledged it would be among the issues discussed.

He said he and Gorbachev would touch upon "a wide array" of issues, including the conventional forces treaty yet to be concluded to cover troop reductions in Europe. He said the one-day session would be a free-flowing discussion between him and Gorbachev, but dampened speculation that Moscow would play a role in mediating the crisis with Iraq.

"I don't see a mediating role at all for Gorbachev," Bush said. "There are a lot of mediators out there."

The main Soviet evening television show Vremya read the following announcement, which was also transmitted by the state TASS news agency.

"It was officially announced here that the president of the U.S.S.R., Mikhail Gorbachev, and the president of the U.S.A., George Bush, will meet on Sunday, Sept. 9, in Helsinki for a discussion of international and bilateral questions."

It would be the eighth summit between Gorbachev and his American counterpart. Five were with

Ronald Reagan. In Washington, U.S. officials said earlier that Bush proposed a summit, and that it likely would be a one-day affair, essentially a meeting over lunch.

Arrangements for the Bush-Gorbachev summit were sketched out during White House Chief of Staff John Sununu's visit this week to Moscow, administration sources said. Bush and Gorbachev last held a summit May 30 to June 3 in the United States. They had met previously on the Mediterranean island of Malta in December 1989.

The two leaders are thought to have had no direct contacts since Iraq invaded Kuwait on Aug. 2, but U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze have spoken several times.

The Soviet Union and the United States have been cooperating on the Gulf crisis, although Moscow has expressed reservations about the large U.S. military buildup in Saudi Arabia.

# Westerners, Japanese flown out of Baghdad

BAGHDAD (R) — An Iraqi Airways jet and a West German airliner took off within minutes of each other early on Sunday, carrying hundreds of British, American, West German and French nationals after a month in Iraq and Kuwait.

Nearly all of those on board the two flights were women and children.

But among the more than 300 people on the Iraqi Airways Boeing 747 flight to Paris and London were 30 ill American men whose evacuation from Kuwait has secured by black American leader Jesse Jackson.

Iraqi Information Director Najji Al Hadithi said earlier an Iraqi plane would fly 322 women and children and the ill Americans to Paris, London and Washington.

Another Iraqi Airways plane arrived in Amman from Baghdad on Saturday with 68 Japanese women and children and a sick Japanese man stranded in Iraq or Kuwait for four weeks.

Britain, which has the largest number of nationals trapped in Iraq and Kuwait of any Western country, expects around 140 Britons to be in the initial airlift.

The evacuees were among foreign nationals held by Iraq at strategic installations to deter any Western attack after the invasion of Kuwait.

In Abu Dhabi, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd Saturday ruled out any compromise with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to win a withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait.

"One thing is certain in my view is that the Iraqis will have to leave Kuwait totally," Hurd told Kuwaiti exiles in Abu Dhabi. "There can be no compromise such as leaving them some islands. All that is nonsense," he told the group of 16 Kuwaitis after hearing their version of events after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

Some Arab leaders, most recently Libyan leader Muammar

Qadhafi in a speech on Saturday, have suggested Iraq should keep the islands if it withdraws from the rest of Kuwait.

Hurd, on a six-country Gulf tour, had two hours of talks with United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher says the presence of Westerners in Iraq will not prevent Britain from taking any "necessary action" against Saddam.

"If you, in fact, allow the taking of hostages, terrible as it is, to determine your own action against a dictator, he has won," she said in an interview to be broadcast Sunday on Britain's TV-AM network.

Asked whether the question would influence any decision to strike against Iraq, Thatcher said: "I am afraid we would have in fact to take the necessary action which we feel vital to stop a dictator, even though he still held hostages."

# Sultan says Iraq will not be attacked from Saudi soil

DHAHRAN (AP) — Saudi Arabia's defence minister said Saturday that foreign troops were here to defend the kingdom and would not be allowed to initiate offensive operations from Saudi soil.

"The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is not a theatre for any action that is not defensive for Saudi Arabia," Prince Sultan Ben Abdul Aziz told reporters at a news conference here.

His comments appeared in rule out using Saudi Arabia as a launching pad for any U.S. effort to rescue foreigners in Iraq or drive Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

But it would not preclude U.S. forces from staging offensive action from elsewhere, such as air strikes from Turkey or naval attacks from the Gulf, which could provoke Iraq into an attack on Saudi Arabia.

A New York newspaper reported Friday the Bush administration was planning massive air strikes against Iraq if there is no diplomatic solution in the Gulf crisis in the next four to 10 weeks.

Quoting informed sources, Newsday newspaper said there appeared to be no fundamental differences of opinion in the administration on whether to use the military for massive airstrikes against Iraq if other options failed.

It quoted one source as saying: "The only debate about military force going in the administration is over timing. How long can we keep our boys waiting in the desert? How long must we wait until sanctions really bite? Will they bite?"

The paper said the military action could come within the next four to 10 weeks if the economic embargo and U.N. initiatives failed to dislodge the Iraqis from Kuwait.

Newsday quoted an unidentified senior official as saying: "The administration must now wait to see whether the sanctions and the diplomatic initiatives work, but obviously there are other options."

President George Bush told a news conference Thursday that he was not optimistic about a diplomatic solution and added that the growing American forces in the Gulf were there, "to prepare for any eventuality."

Newsday quoted one source as

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# A colonial policy that will not go away

The following article by Glenn Frankel appeared in the Washington Post of Aug. 31 under the headline, "Imperial legacy: Lines in the sand."

LONDON — To make sense of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's claims that Kuwait is really part of Iraq, it helps to go back nearly 70 years to a meeting in a tent in the Arabian desert, where a British high commissioner named Sir Percy Cox drew what became the Kuwait-Iraq border. The meeting had gone on for five gruelling days with no compromise in sight. So one night in late November 1922, Cox, Britain's representative in Baghdad, summoned to his tent Sheikh Ibn Saud, soon to

become ruler of Saudi Arabia, to explain the facts of life as the British carved up the remnants of the defeated Ottoman Empire.

"It was astonishing to see (Ibn Saud) being reprimanded by His Majesty's High Commissioner and being told sharply that he, Sir Percy Cox, would himself decide on the type and general line of the frontier," recalled Lt. Harold Dickson, the British military attaché to the region, in his memoirs.

"This ended the impasse. Ibn Saud almost broke down and pathetically remarked that Sir Percy was his father and mother who made him and raised him from nothing to the position he held and that he

would surrender half his Kingdom, nay the whole, if Sir Percy ordered."

Within two days, the deal was done. The modern borders of Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were established by British imperial fiat at what became known as the Uqair conference. Britain had won, and everyone else believed they had lost. In time, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait swallowed their pride and acceded. But for Iraq, denied a viable outlet to the Gulf, the sense of injustice festered over three generations and was a major factor in the eight-year Iran-Iraq war and the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has offered many, some-

times contradictory rationales for the Aug. 2 invasion. But the one that has resonated most deeply in the hearts and minds both of his own people and of the Arab world in general is his claim to redress the wrongs inflicted by British imperialism.

The foreigner entered their lands, and Western colonialism divided and established weak states ruled by families that offered him services that facilitated his mission," he stated in an Aug. 10 address. "The colonialists, to ensure their petroleum interests... set up those disfigured petroleum states. Through this, they kept the wealth away from the masses of this nation."

One irony of Saddam's argu-

ment is that Iraq's borders, too, were drawn by the "colonialists."

Earlier this week, Saddam issued a decree declaring Kuwait to be Iraq's 19th province, renaming Kuwait City as Kadumiya and naming a new district of northeast Kuwait after himself. "The branch has been returned to the tree trunk," he declared.

Although there is no consensus on the issue, many historians and analysts say Saddam technically has got it about half right. They say Iraq's legal claim to all of Kuwait, which is of dubious historical validity, was renounced by Saddam's own Arab Baath Socialist Party during its first brief spell in power in 1963. But Iraq never

acceded to a specific borderline, and some believe it has valid historic and strategic reasons for claiming a small portion of northeast Kuwait.

Some Iraqi analysts expect that if Saddam feels compelled to withdraw from Kuwait, he will still seek to hold onto the two strategic islands of Bubiyan and Warba and the strip he now calls Saddamiyat Midlata. They note that his decree administratively separated the strip from the rest of Kuwait by placing it in the Basra province — tipping off his fallback position if the crunch comes.

But beyond the technicalities, Saddam has staked out what for many Arabs is very powerful emotional ground.

They look upon Kuwait and the other tiny Gulf kingdoms as the most blatant products of a European imperialism that ultimately dismembered the Arab world, creating the strife-torn, artificial states of dubious legitimacy that today dominate the region.

"In the Iraqi subconscious, Kuwait is part of Basra province, and the bloody British took it away from them," said Sir Anthony Parsons, the former British ambassador to the United Nations who spent 30 years as a diplomat in the Middle East. "We protected our strategic interests rather successfully, but in doing so we didn't worry too much about

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## China, Soviet Union insist on peaceful end to Gulf crisis

HARBIN, China (R) — China and the Soviet Union Saturday insisted that peaceful means be used to solve the Gulf crisis and prevent it from escalating into war.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze emerged from three hours of talks here with his Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen and told journalists the two nations were willing to cooperate in defusing the crisis by peaceful means.

"We did not have any disagreements," said Shevardnadze of his talks in this northeastern Chinese city.

"We both support peaceful means and peaceful channels to solve the Gulf crisis," he added but stopped short of directly condemning the use of force in the region.

Both China and the Soviet Union voted for a United Nations resolution allowing the multinational force in the Gulf to use military muscle to enforce an economic embargo on Iraq and Kuwait.

China said later that it was opposed to the use of force. Foreign diplomats say the Soviet Union is leaning further towards adopting a stance less belligerent than the United States and nearer to China's.

Qian said differences of opinion did exist among the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council but that Moscow and Beijing's positions were "nearly identical."

"The present task is that parties should avoid the use of force to prevent an escalation into violent war," Qian said in a separate meeting with journalists.

The Security Council has demanded the withdrawal of Iraqi forces which invaded Kuwait on Aug. 2.

Qian said the differences among the permanent members — the United States, the Soviet Union, China, Britain and France — were that some nations advocated the use of limited force while China was dead set against it.

Both foreign ministers stressed the importance of an Arab settlement to the Gulf crisis but did not elaborate on what peaceful means they would be willing to pursue.

**Sino-Soviet cooperation**  
Qian ruled out military cooperation with Moscow but the ministers said they intended to keep open a triangle of frequent contacts with the United States, China and the Soviet Union normalised relations in May last year, mending a 30-year rift during which they fought border skirmishes and came close to all-out war.

Shevardnadze hailed his talks here as elevating Sino-Soviet relations to a "unified, new level in cooperation."

This provincial capital near the Soviet border bears witness to a past fear of invasion.

Massive networks of air-raid shelters burrowed underground during times of Sino-Soviet tension have now been transformed into bars, restaurants, dance halls and shops.

Shevardnadze and Qian set Sept. 10 as the date for new talks on further troops withdrawals from their border. Qian said a new atmosphere of trust now exists between the two nations, which both possess formidable armories of nuclear weapons.

The two ministers agreed on the importance of Sino-Soviet cooperation in realising a five-power peace plan to end war in Cambodia. The plan calls for the formation of a broadly based supreme national council which would represent Cambodia during an interim period but hand many of its powers to the United Nations.

Shevardnadze goes on from China to North Korea and Japan.

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## Gonzalez warns against warmongering in Gulf

MADRID (R) — Spain rejected British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's rebuke to her European allies over the Gulf crisis, saying caution could avert war.

"We don't all have the same warmongering ardour she is capable of at times," Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez told state television Friday.

"You have already seen Mrs. Thatcher is accusing us all of being a bit lukewarm in our positions and I think she is partly right," he said.

"Perhaps our attitude is more cautious."

"I think we must not despair of finding a peaceful solution and we must calm the impatience of the bawks who really exist."

Thatcher chided her European and North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) partners, except France, for giving the United States minimal support in the Middle East conflict.

"There are people who think we must go for a quick and confrontational solution. My opinion is the contrary," said Gonzalez, adding that the United Nations embargo against Iraq could succeed "if we have tenacity and patience."

Spain has contributed three warships to the Gulf task force

enforcing sanctions against Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait, but has been careful to stress the ships are on a peace mission and will only fire if attacked.

Gonzalez said that ideally a peace initiative should come from the Arab World but he was not optimistic it could produce one because divisions were very strong inside the Arab League.

"We must avoid at all costs that the conflict appears to the world as a conflict between the Western world and Arab countries," he said.

Gonzalez consulted His Majesty King Hussein about the crisis on Thursday when the King stopped in Madrid on his European tour. Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordóñez travels to Cairo Sunday to talk with his Egyptian counterpart Hosni Mubarak and will meet Arab League chief Chadi Kibbi in Tunis Monday.

The Spanish prime minister said armed conflict in the Gulf was a possibility.

"The consequences of a negotiated way out are always more advantageous than a way out via confrontation or war — but that cannot be ruled out," said Gonzalez.

"We cannot allow any country to do as it pleases and go around flattening other countries and wiping them off the map."

Gonzalez called on Spain to show moderation in its reaction to the rise in petrol prices so far caused by the Middle East conflict, to avoid inflationary pressure.

"We must have a serious policy of moderation in prices, income and salaries," said Gonzalez.

The government announced it would be taking tough budget measures to protect Spain's booming economy from inflation, any fall-out from the Gulf crisis, which government spokeswoman Rosa Conde said could cause a one-point rise in inflation.



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## Hrawi troops seen poised to launch assault on Aoun

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian-backed Lebanese soldiers loyal to President Elias Hrawi Saturday deployed around the gateway into the Christian enclave amid reports that an offensive to crush rebel General Michel Aoun was imminent.

Security sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said hundreds of Syrians and Lebanese troops were taking up positions along the western side of the green line that divides Beirut.

The sources said the Syrians were also deploying in the hills to the north and east of the 800-square-kilometre Christian enclave north of Beirut.

The enclave, in which an estimated one million people live, has been ringed by the Syrians and their militia allies since last April, when Aoun declared a "war of liberation" to drive out the Syrians.

The Voice of the Nation radio said Aoun has ringed his headquarters in the shell-wrecked presidential palace in Beirut's eastern Baabda suburb with tanks to confront any attack.

The build-up followed a summit in Damascus Wednesday be-

tween Hrawi and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, who pledged to provide the Lebanese government with "any assistance needed to extend its authority over the whole of Lebanon."

Aoun controls about 40 per cent of the enclave after an eight-month power struggle with Christian militia chief Samir Geagea for control of the territory.

The general refuses to recognise Hrawi, who was elected Nov. 24 to implement an Arab League-brokered peace plan to end Lebanon's 15-year-old civil war.

Aoun rejects the plan because it does not guarantee the withdrawal of 40,000 Syrian troops deployed in Lebanon under a 1976 Arab League peacekeeping mandate.

Hrawi has sacked Aoun as interim prime minister and army commander. But the general refuses to step down or hand over the ruined presidential palace that is a symbol of constitutional authority in Lebanon.

Voice of the Nation, along with other radio stations and Beirut newspapers, predicted that Hrawi's troops and Syrian forces would soon launch an assault to evict Aoun from Baabda if he refused to move out peacefully.

The Al Safir daily said civilians were fleeing Baabda and its Aoun-controlled environs because they feared an attack was likely.

Aoun commands around 19,000 Muslim troops. It was not immediately clear how many troops the Syrians were deploying around the enclave, but they have thousands of men available.

Hrawi's forces comprise some 22,000 Muslim troops commanded by Gen. Emil Lahoud. But they are poorly equipped.

Geagea, Aoun's Christian rival and commander of the Lebanese Forces militia, has at least 6,000 hardcore fighters plus thousands of reservists at his disposal.

It was not clear whether Geagea, who has said he accepts the peace plan, would participate in an offensive against the general.

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## U.S. to send more arms to Israel — newspaper

NEW YORK (R) — The Bush administration is preparing to send as much as \$1 billion worth of advanced weapons to Israel, The New York Times reported Saturday.

Citing administration officials, the Times said the move was intended to signal Iraq that the United States will not desert its main Middle East ally, which has placed its military on heightened alert.

The Times said American and Israeli officials are negotiating final details of the arms package, which could include F-15 and F-16 fighter planes, Patriot ground-to-air missiles that can intercept incoming missiles, M-60 battle tanks and Apache tank-killing helicopters, mostly from U.S. stockpiles in Europe.

While the original idea for the added military might was Israel's, it has been approved by the U.S. Defence Department and top national security officials at the

White House, the newspaper reported. Details of the plan have yet to be worked out, it said, but both sides hope to transfer some weapons as soon as possible.

The move comes on top of reassurances in recent days by U.S. administration officials to Congress and American Jewish leaders that the United States is committed to maintaining Israel's military advantage in the region.

The administration this week announced an emergency sale of \$2.2 billion worth of weapons to the Saudis.

According to the Times, Republican Senator Rudy Boschwitz said: "The White House and State Department called to say they recognised an imbalance was occurring and that some form of additional weaponry for Israel would be found to remedy that."

The United States had planned \$1.8 billion in military aid to Israel this year before the Gulf crisis.

## Over 60,000 U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia — defence officials

WASHINGTON (R) — Over 60,000 U.S. troops are now in Saudi Arabia and the total could swell to 150,000 in the next six weeks, American defence officials said Friday.

The officials said that between 60,000 and 70,000 American marines, U.S. army troops and airmen had already arrived in the kingdom in the biggest U.S. military buildup since the Vietnam war.

The total does not include some 35,000 seamen and navy fliers aboard over 40 U.S. warships in the Gulf, Red Sea, Gulf of Oman and Mediterranean in a growing military net around Iraq.

The defence officials declined to give specific numbers regarding Saudi Arabia. But one said a total of 150,000 or more by the middle of October was a reasonable guess.

The Defence Department announced Friday that a 500-bed navy hospital and about 900 medical and other support personnel had been moved to Saudi Arabia as part of the buildup.

The hospital, which arrived in containers on a cargo ship, includes portable operating rooms and other units. It was dispatched in addition to two big U.S. navy hospital ships which are en route to the region to care for casualties in any outbreak of hostilities.

More than 400 U.S. air force, navy and marine fighters and bombers are now in the region. About 200 of them are on three aircraft carriers and over 200 more are in Saudi Arabia.

The Defence Department also announced that U.S. navy ships had so far questioned about 350 tankers and cargo ships headed towards or away from Iraq in an effort to stem the flow of goods in a United Nations embargo against Baghdad for its Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait.

The brief statement said that U.S. navy personnel had boarded "about 10 vessels" to check their cargoes. Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams said Thursday that no Iraqi or Kuwaiti flag vessels had been boarded.

## U.S. to give \$163 million aid to Egypt

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States Friday gave \$163 million to Egypt to help the country's economy which has been hard hit by the crisis in the Gulf.

A spokesman for the U.S. Agency for International Development said the cash grant for the fiscal year to Sept. 30 was \$48 million more than Egypt received last year.

But he denied that the release of the funds was tied to the Gulf crisis.

Egypt has been a staunch supporter of U.S.-led efforts against Iraq following Baghdad's invasion of Kuwait Aug. 2.

But it has suffered from the economic fall-out from the crisis, including the United Nations-mandated trade sanctions imposed on Baghdad after the invasion.

U.S. President George Bush said this week that he was spearheading an effort to drum up support from wealthy nations for Egypt, Turkey and other countries hurt by the Gulf crisis.

"We want to make sure that countries contributing to this unprecedented collective response do not suffer for doing so," Bush said.

Egypt will lose virtually \$1 billion a year in remittances from Egyptian workers in Iraq and Kuwait as a result of the crisis. It is also being flooded by hundreds of thousands of destitute Egyptians, fleeing Kuwait and Iraq where some two million of them had worked.

The amount of overall U.S. economic aid to Egypt is set by law and is due to total \$815 million in the current fiscal year, the U.S. agency's spokesman said. Most of that is allocated to specific projects, such as rebuilding Cairo's sewers, commodity imports and food aid.

The cash grant is part of that overall aid. But it is more flexible and can be used for a wider range of purposes.

Over the past several years, Congress had set the grant to Egypt at \$115 million, but this year it set no limit, giving the Bush administration an opportunity to increase the grant should it wish.

## Cuba wants quick action to mitigate sanctions effects

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Cuba's U.N. envoy said Friday he would submit a resolution to the Security Council next week unless the council's sanctions committee quickly made clear that food and medicines were exempt from the embargo against Iraq.

"When it was a matter of adopting the sanctions, it (the council) rushed and in a few hours the sanctions were imposed," Ambassador Ricardo Alarcon said.

"When it was a matter of allowing the violation of international law by the fleets moving around in the area, it took only a few hours to take a decision," he added, referring to council approval of limited force to impose the embargo.

But Alarcon said it was much slower in clarifying that foodstuffs and medicines might be exempted from the trade ban and in responding to requests from Jordan and other countries seeking relief from the economic effects of observing the sanctions.

Speaking to reporters after a closed-door meeting of the council's sanctions committee, of which Cuba is a member, he said: "We announced that if by next week a clear decision on this

matter is not taken, we will formally table (submit) our resolution in the council and will demand an urgent vote on it."

"We may not have it approved, but at least everybody's responsibility will be clear in front of the world," he added, blaming the United States for delaying matters.

The sanctions resolution, on which Cuba and Yemen abstained, exempts "supplies intended strictly for medical purposes and, in humanitarian circumstances, foodstuffs."

Also, a number of countries claiming they would face exceptional hardship as a result of observing sanctions have applied for relief, under Article 50 of the U.N. Charter.

United States representative James Wilkinson told reporters and Iraqi minister had said Baghdad had sufficient foodstuffs on hand to last a long time.

The chairwoman of the committee, Marijatta Rasi of Finland, said: "We don't think that there is any humanitarian need for foodstuff importation at the moment."

"There are different views on the storage situation in the country," she added.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Spy agency swamped with Iraq data

CAPE CANAVERAL (R) — U.S. intelligence analysts can barely handle the deluge of photographs pouring into the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) from spy satellites monitoring Iraqi military forces in the Gulf, says a respected U.S. aerospace industry journal. Aviation Week and Space Technology reports in its Monday edition that experts at the CIA's national photo interpretation centre are working around the clock to keep a steady stream of intelligence information flowing to multi-national forces in Saudi Arabia. The report, advance copies of which were provided to reporters here, said U.S. strategic reconnaissance satellites are operating at wartime capacity. Imaging data from the satellites periodically backs up because there is too much to analyse, it said. As many as five spacecraft are observing the Middle East crisis zone, the magazine says. The satellites are in orbits that take one or two directly over the Gulf every two days. The report, citing the British-based Kettering group of space observers, also says that the Soviet Union also has three spy satellites monitoring Iraqi military activity.

### Le Pen praises Waldheim's 'realpolitik'

TOURS, France (R) — French rightist Jean-Marie Le Pen praised Austrian President Kurt Waldheim Friday for "efficient realpolitik" in gaining the release of Austrian nationals from Iraq. "Mr. Waldheim has won the release of all his nationals... personally. I am all for it," said the maverick leader of the ultra-rightist National Front. Waldheim was widely criticised by Western countries with nationals trapped in Iraq after he met Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in Baghdad and flew home last Sunday with 96 Austrians. The European Community's Executive Commission accused him of breaching international solidarity against Iraq. Virtually alone among Western politicians, Le Pen has refused to condemn Iraq's take-over of Kuwait. He has proposed a peace plan calling for Kuwait to become a neutral state under the joint rule of Iraq and its former ruling family.

### Americans back Bush handling of Gulf

LOS ANGELES (R) — Americans strongly back President George Bush's decision to send troops to the Gulf and 73 per cent of those interviewed for an opinion poll approve his handling of the crisis, the Los Angeles Times reported Friday. But Americans remained deeply divided over what ultimately must happen for the United States to claim victory in the Gulf, according to the poll. Half the people interviewed thought it likely the situation could "bog down and become another Vietnam" and women particularly worried about this. One quarter of those questioned thought Iraqi President Saddam Hussein must be overthrown before the United States could claim victory; a quarter said victory would mean forcing the Iraqis out of Kuwait; and nearly a quarter also said it would be a victory if the Iraqis merely released all Americans unharmful. The poll was based on questions asked of 1,206 Americans Wednesday. The poll represented a randomly selected cross-section of Americans and had an error margin of four percentage points in either direction, the newspaper said. Sixty-four per cent of those polled endorsed Bush's decision to send troops to the Gulf, the poll said.

### Israeli air chief says Saddam has to go



## 14 dead, 187 injured on the road in a week

AMMAN (Petra) — Fourteen citizens died and 187 others were injured in car accidents which took place in the Kingdom in the period from Aug. 18 to Aug. 25, according to Public Security Department (PSD) sources.

The sources said 388 car accidents occurred in this period compared to 422 in the week before. Casualties increased by 7 and injuries dropped by 30 compared to the same period.

The Traffic Department's statistics showed that the number of cars damaged in this period reached 658, less by 51 cars than the week before.

Statistics show that 237 accidents occurred in Amman, 37 in

## Seminar reviews role of animal breeding on economy

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's livestock wealth is considered one of the Kingdom's strategic production sectors, playing a basic role in the national economy and accounting for 4 per cent of the total revenues if farming or nearly JD 90 million, Minister of Agriculture Sdeiman Arabiyat said Saturday.

He said that the livestock business was of great importance for Jordan; "the country at present depends, to a great extent, on imports of lean meat and dairy products whose total cost constitute a heavy burden on the country's balance of trade," the minister said at the opening of a seminar for 50 veterinarian nurses employed by the Ministry of Agriculture.

At the two-week seminar the participants will be lectured and discuss animal diseases, diagnosing diseases taking samples for laboratory tests and a general study of diseases common to man and animal.

Jordan annually consumes 57,000 tonnes of poultry meat of which it produces 43,000 tonnes and consumes 350 million table eggs, all of which produced locally, the minister pointed out.

According to Arabiyat, Jordan's annual consumption of lean meat is estimated at 37,840 tonnes annually of which only 9,400 tonnes are produced locally, continuing to provide meals to expatriates arriving in Jordan from Kuwait on their way home.

Nearly 9,000 light meals are being distributed in this programme on a daily basis.

Civil defence training programmes have meanwhile been going ahead in different parts of the Kingdom. Reports from Madaba, Zarqa, and Karak said thousands of people had been receiving training in first aid, fire fighting and rescue operations.

In Irbid new civil defence training centres were opened to face the large turnout of citizens at training centres. Director of the Civil Defence Department in Irbid Governorate said 16 new centres were opened in several villages, raising the total number of the training centres in the governorate to 75. He said the total number of citizens so far trained reached 5,170.

## Jordan to outline educational plans at UNESCO meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Education and Higher Education Mohammad Hamdan left for Geneva Saturday to take part in a general meeting by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) on Monday to discuss education issues.

The meeting, which is expected to open Monday, will discuss the eradication of illiteracy; the Jordanian delegation is expected to submit a report on the Kingdom's programmes for the eradication of illiteracy and on ways of overhauling the educational system in Jordan.

The general UNESCO meeting, expected to last seven days, is being attended by ministers of education of UNESCO member nations.

Before leaving for Geneva Hamdan issued a circular to all education departments in Jordan to participate in the "world literary day" on Sept. 8. "Students and citizens should be oriented on the problems resulting from illiteracy and its adverse effects on socio-economic developments," the minister said.

He said that all concerned departments were required to urge adults without basic education to join the literacy centres.

In a separate circular the minister said that all literacy and adult education centres, which number about 500, will be open for basic courses as of Sept. 15, 1990.

He said that all centres should make preparations for the coming course which provides basic education to the illiterates and should make available books and stationery.

Adult and literacy courses are given free by the Ministry of Education in a bid to reduce the number of illiterates in Jordan, which now stands at nearly 20 per cent, to around 10 per cent by the year 2000, according to Ministry of Education officials.

Last January Hamdan called on all illiterate citizens in Jordan to join the literacy and adult education centres. He said that illiteracy was a social danger and eradicating this danger was a national responsibility.

According to the minister, this year the anniversary of special importance since 1990 was declared by the United Nations to be the year of eradication of illiteracy and of international cooperation to provide education for all.

The need for national programmes for the eradication of illiteracy was stressed by a world conference on "education for all" held in Thailand last March.

Dr. Hamdan is accompanied to the Geneva meeting by a three-member delegation. One member is Dr. Izzat Jaradat, director of educational planning at the Ministry of Education, who said that the Geneva meeting was expected to discuss education strategies in the world and ways of providing education for all, especially to children aged 6-16.

Jordan's endeavours to promote education, Jaradat said, will be outlined at the general conference.

## Jordan's firms stand to lose \$280m from Iraq sanctions

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian factories and other businesses stand to lose not less than \$280 million in exports to Iraq and Kuwait annually as a result of the embargo imposed on Iraq, and there is urgent need for the Jordanian government to act promptly to overcome difficulties arising from the situation, according to the Jordanian Exporters Association.

"Should the Iraqi markets remain closed, Jordan will lose up to \$200 million worth of exported products and is bound to lose \$80 million worth of goods normally exported to Kuwait," said the association in a statement Saturday.

It said that with the closure of the Iraqi and Kuwaiti markets nearly 35 factories and companies, whose combined capital amounts to JD 72 million, have been severely hit.

"These factories' total exports to Iraq and Kuwait markets from the beginning of 1990 and until the outbreak of the Gulf crisis amounted to \$40 million," the statement said.

The association urged the government to take prompt measures to ensure a continued flow of Jordanian manufactured products to the two Arab countries so as to prevent heavy losses for the national economy and a subsequent lay off of workers.

A memorandum sent by the Jordanian government to the Security Council on Aug. 24 said that the Kingdom stands to lose over \$4 billion as a result of compliance with Security Council Resolution 661 which calls for sanctions on Iraq for its Aug. 2 takeover of Kuwait.

The memorandum, stressing Jordan's economic interdependence with Iraq and the short term as well as long term repercussions, also detailed a medium-term programme to remedy the situation and contain the repercussions.

It said that Jordan needed grants, interest-free loans, oil financing as well as debt-relief and reduction.

Apart from the \$200 million annual losses in exports, Jordan loses about \$925 million from transit business, according to the memorandum.

Coinciding with the statement, a bulletin issued by the Amman Financial Market (AFM) Saturday showed a considerable decline in the volume of shares traded in the past month. The bulletin said the total volume of trading in August 1990 stood at JD 8,791,558, down from JD 36,125,394 in the same month of 1989, registering a drop of 75.7 per cent.

The bulletin said that the total number of shares traded at the AFM was 3,676,753 shares compared to 16,480,995 shares in the same month of last year, registering a decline of 77.7 per cent.

The bulletin showed that the total number of contracts concluded last month was 6,181 contracts compared to 18,223 in August of 1989, registering a drop of 66.1 per cent.

The decline in the share trading business at the AFM was naturally attributed to the current situation in the Gulf.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday receives Cornelio Summaroga, president of the International Committee of the Red Cross (Petra photo)

## Prince Hassan appeals for international aid for evacuees

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday appealed to international organisations to extend all possible assistance to Jordan to help it shoulder the heavy responsibility of caring for the thousands of evacuees flooding the Kingdom from the Gulf region.

The Regent, who spoke at a meeting with the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Cornelio Summaroga, underlined the importance of cooperation among international organisations to provide humanitarian assistance to the thousands of evacuees now in Jordan.

Summaroga reviewed with Prince Hassan Jordan's plans to accommodate and transport the evacuees, and paid tribute to various Jordanian authorities, especially to the Public Security Department, for their handling of the situation.

The Prince briefed Summaroga on plans taken by the government to put up and feed the evacuees until they leave the country and discussed with the ICRC chief the basic needs for the various nationals in transit through Jordanian territories.

As Summaroga left for home after inspecting ICRC plans to help the Kingdom a Red Cross plane laden with 40 tonnes of relief supplies landed in Amman. ICRC sources told the Jordan Times that the shipment comprised medicine, cooking utensils, basic food, tents and other necessities.

Prince Hassan said that by noon Friday there were at least 70,000 evacuees, 25 per cent of whom were women and children. The Regent expected tens of thousands of evacuees to cross into Jordan from Iraq through the Ruweished border point in the coming few days.

Prince Hassan said that the situation was becoming extremely serious with regard to accommodation and transportation of the evacuees who, he said, could reach millions rather than thousands should the crisis remain unresolved.

He said that Jordan was in need of volunteers to distribute food supplies and offer other basic services to the evacuees, and requires more tents, blankets, and medical supplies.

The United States is making arrangements to fly another 500 tents to Jordan. These supplies are expected to arrive Sept. 3. These tents are in addition to the 500 tents and 15,000 water bottles which arrived in the Kingdom Aug. 26, part of one million dollars in assistance the United States has made available to Jordan to meet urgent humanitarian needs associated with the influx of displaced persons into the country. In addition, 9,000 pre-packaged meals have been made available.

The United States has also contributed \$250,000 to the International Organisation of Migration to support its efforts to repatriate persons displaced by the Gulf crisis.

## Committee starts awareness programme

AMMAN (Petra) — A special committee set up by the Professional Association to provide guidance to be public on means of dealing with the effects of the Gulf crisis has embarked on a comprehensive programme in this respect, covering such matters as health, water and economic issues.

Dr. Fouad Abn Hamid, who chairs the committee, said that a sub-committee on health had worked out a special programme dealing with means of providing first aid during emergencies, and that a plan would be published soon.

The sub-committee on roads and water has prepared a booklet, providing guidance and instructions to members of the public in shelters and a total of 100,000 copies will be soon distributed to the public.

Meanwhile a committee set up by the Professional Association is continuing to provide meals to expatriates arriving in Jordan from Kuwait on their way home.

## 151,173 Egyptians, Sudanese evacuated through Aqaba port

AQABA (Petra) — The number of Egyptian and Sudanese nationals evacuated from Kuwait and Iraq through Aqaba Port reached 151,173 in the period from Aug. 2 till Sept. 1, 1990, according to Aqaba District Governor Qattan Al-Majali. According to Majali, 9,307 cars were transported with these passengers as well.

Majali said in advance preparations, good organisation, cooperation between all the departments in Aqaba and the cooperation of the private sector had major role in facilitating the transportation of the evacuees to their countries.

He said the average number of evacuees travelling to their country via Aqaba daily was 4,200 accompanied by nearly 1,100 cars. According to Majali there are about 4,315 Egyptians and 700 Sudanese in Aqaba on daily basis.

Egyptian evacuees, he said, are being gathered at Al-Rabia estate and the passengers station in the city, while the national camp on the southern beach in Aqaba has been assigned to receive Sudanese nationals. He added that Al-Rabia Estate was equipped with all necessary services and was provided with a centre for border and foreigners' affairs, a health centre with a resident doctor and an ambulance.

"The supply department in the city and a voluntary committee distribute food supplies to the passengers daily," he said.

The national camp, Majali said, was equipped with sanitary services and water supplies. Meals are provided by voluntary committees.

## Jordan, UNICEF conclude aid plan

AMMAN (Petra) — The government and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Thursday concluded a five-year plan of action, under which UNICEF will provide technical and supply assistance to Jordan worth \$2.5 million.

UNICEF's contribution is designed to help accelerate the expanded programme on immunisation, control of diarrhoeal diseases and acute respiratory infections, improving maternal and child health services and prevention of childhood disabilities.

The five-year plan aims at reducing infant and child mortality rate to 25 per one thousand live births by the year 2000, and at improving the maternal health through providing pre and post natal care facilities.

The agreement was signed for the Jordanian government by Planning Minister Khalid Amin Abdullah and for UNICEF by Nigel Fisher, deputy regional director of the Amman-based UNICEF Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa.

## Deputy returns after American tour

AMMAN (Petra) — Parliament member Dr. Fawzi Tumeih Saturday returned to Amman after a month-long visit to the United States during which he gave various lectures on the current situation in the Middle East.

During his stay Dr. Tumeih took part in a television seminar on the Gulf crisis and its impact on Jordan's political and economic sectors. He also gave several interviews to American press agencies in which he stressed His Majesty King Hussein's continuous efforts to find a just solution to the Gulf crisis without the intervention of any foreign force.

In a statement Tumeih criticised America's double standard policy in dealing with the United Nations resolutions. He said that for years now America has been ignoring any resolution in favour of the Palestinian cause.

## INVITATION

Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan H.E. the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities - the Department of Antiquities, has the pleasure to invite the public to visit the archaeological exhibition entitled "All Lajjun - A Roman Frontier Fort" organised in cooperation with the University of North Carolina.

Starting on Sept. 3 till Sept. 15, 1990 at the Registration and Research Centre - Department of Antiquities / Jabal Amman.

The exhibition will open daily from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. / 4-7 p.m. for group and school visits please call 644482 / Mrs. Hanan Kurdi.

## APPEAL MILK & MEDICINE FOR THE CHILDREN OF IRAQ

An appeal directed to the human conscience all over the world, starting from Jordan. From the children of Jordan to fathers and mothers wherever they are.

The children of Jordan from the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) who are aware there is still a responsive human conscience appeal to all citizens in Jordan, to the local, Arab, regional and international organisations and institutions and the world child organisations and to leaders of the world's countries to end injustice against the children of Iraq who are threatened with being deprived of bread, milk and medicine.

The children of Jordan demand all to implement the principles of the international declaration on children's rights which provides for protecting and taking care of children under all circumstances, in all times and in the days of war and peace alike. The principles of the international declaration on the children's rights by which all the world abide by linking between these rights and the child's basic needs. The declaration's provisions under articles No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10 guarantee the protection and welfare of children as well as social, food, and educational security and their right to grow up in healthy conditions in the times of war, peace and disasters.

The children of Jordan appeal for providing milk, food and medicine supplies for the children of Iraq.

This appeal comes on the eve of convening the world summit for children in which many leaders of the world's countries will take part to protect childhood.

As we head our call from the General Union of Voluntary Services in Jordan we appeal to fathers and mothers to respond favourably to this call. Let us share our food together.

Cash and in-kind donations are received at the following centres: The General Union of Voluntary Societies - Jabal Luwibdeh, Tel. 634001, 634009, 630398.

GUVS - Amman Governorate	Tel. 639555
GUVS - Irbid Governorate	(02)242518
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Donations are received daily until 7:00 p.m.

## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

**1,600 evacuees enrol in UNRWA schools**  
AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 1,600 Palestinian refugee children evacuated from Kuwait, have been admitted to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) schools in Jordan, a spokesman for UNRWA field office in Amman has said. The source expected the number of evacuee students to increase within the next few days and said that UNRWA had taken the necessary measures to deal with the situation arising from the Gulf crisis. UNRWA runs 197 schools in Jordan, attended by 135,000 students.

**3 ships dock at Aqaba, 2 leave**  
AMMAN (Petra) — Three vessels docked at Aqaba Port Saturday and two others left the port, according to Jordanian Ports Corporation. One of the vessels that arrived Saturday was to load phosphate for China while the other two were carrying various products imported by Jordan, the corporation statement said. The two vessels that left the port, the statement added, had brought shipments of various goods. It said that three ferries, carrying vehicles and passengers, had left the port for Sinai.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zara displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).
- Exhibition displaying posters on environmental control measures of each sector of the environment (air, land and water) at the British Council.



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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### Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

# Sanctions hurt Jordan more than Iraq

AFTER ten years of full economic cooperation between Jordan and Iraq, the two economies became almost integrated. The inter-dependence between the two countries became apparent in the extensive exchange of goods and services and the preferential treatment that Jordanian products enjoyed in Iraq.

Up to 15 per cent variation of price was tolerated by Iraq, which gave Jordanian products a clear edge over foreign competition in the vast Iraqi market.

Around 12.4 per cent of Jordan's labour force is engaged in producing goods and services for export to Iraq. That portion of Jordan's manpower will become unemployed if Jordan has to lose its Iraqi market.

Some 3.7 per cent of Jordan's labour force is engaged in transit business to Iraq. That portion of Jordan's manpower will also become unemployed if Jordan has to give up its transit business to Iraq.

Thus the adherence by Jordan to economic sanctions imposed by the United Nations against Iraq will add around 16.1 percentage points to unemployment which is already in the neighbourhood of 20 per cent, to make it over 36 per cent.

If half of the Jordanian expatriates working in Kuwait would lose their jobs there, and return to Jordan, unemployment will rise to over 44 per cent. The question is how would any financial compensation make good these irreparable and far-reaching social and political damages.

The other side of the above calculations is that the Jordanian economy will lose in one strike no less than one fifth of the gross domestic product. But that is only the direct losses. Indirect losses are enormous. When industry and transport sectors lose that

much, other sectors will suffer as well. The overall damage is between \$1.5 to \$2 billion annually.

But that is not all. The loss of Iraq as a source of our oil at concessionary price would cost Jordan around \$280 million a year. The loss of expatriates remittances from Kuwait would cost \$300 million, and the debt repayment of Iraq would cost \$310 million, a total of \$890 million, or around one fifth of the economy.

What about compensation? The Jordanian government submitted that the minimum requirement for aid would be \$2 billion, but this is only lip service. No comprehensive

compensation package has been offered to Jordan, and the little talk about compensation is quoting minor amounts on temporary basis. In other words, America is pressing Jordan to apply the sweeping sanctions against Iraq before any compensation, and that is precisely calling on Jordan to commit economic suicide.

In relative terms Jordan's boycotting Iraq is much more damaging than the United States boycotting the whole world. As a matter of fact Iraq's imports from Jordan and exports to the Kingdom make one third of our gross national product; that is relatively equal to 150 per cent of American

trade exchange with the whole world. Even with compensation, the Jordanian people are against the sanctions because no one with a trace of humanity or nationalism would wholeheartedly cooperate in starving the children and poor families in Iraq to death until they submit to the demands of the U.S.

Jordan does not produce or supply Iraq with any thing of strategic value. Jordanian exports to Iraq comprise fruits, vegetables, medicines, doors, house appliances, furniture, soap, clothing and the like. The sanctions hurt Jordan much more than Iraq.

## Away from the brink

THOSE who were expecting a breakthrough from the Iraq-U.N. talks in Amman over the past two days are in for a little disappointment. The talks ended inconclusively. That does not mean breakthroughs should have been expected in the first place, given the nature of and circumstances surrounding the talks between the U.N. secretary general and the Iraqi foreign minister. And then the inconclusive outcome does not mean that the dialogue that has been started has ended in deadlock either.

Javier Perez de Cuellar came here with a mandate: to discuss the implementation of U.N. resolutions on the Gulf crisis. He, being the experienced and able diplomat that he is, surely did not expect Tariq Aziz to tell him "fine, we'll comply with whatever the Security Council has decided." The issues at hand are of course much more complex than that. Iraq has on its agenda more points than what the U.S. and other members of the Security Council would like it to have. Mr. Aziz did a good job explaining his country's position to representatives of the world media yesterday.

It is true that many of us were encouraged by what we heard from the two statesmen following their first day of talks on Friday. But we are not less discouraged by what happened yesterday.

It would be difficult to guess what is on the U.N. secretary general's mind before he meets the journalists today. However, it should not be altogether impossible to expect from him words of optimism and encouragement. After all, the man, having listened to and understood the Iraqi position, will try to give peace a chance. This is basically his mission.

How he will do that is the question that has to be asked. The answer will largely depend, of course, on whether the other side is willing to listen and to what extent.

If President Bush has not made up his mind to start a shooting war against Iraq, then there is every possibility that Mr. Perez de Cuellar might be able to find the right opening for talking him into a quiet dialogue with the Iraqis. The standoff in the Gulf should make little sense if neither side will budge on their position.

There were two encouraging signs yesterday that the U.S. might not want to go to war anytime soon. The first was a statement made by Saudi Arabia's third man, Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, to the effect that his country would not allow the Americans to attack Iraq from its territories. And the second is the announcement that President Bush and Gorbachev were going to meet on September 9. In addition, there is the waiting period for the report of the U.N. secretary-general to be submitted to the Security Council. If this report should have an impact, this would be the time to make it most effective.

The situation of course remains potentially very dangerous. But to say that the Amman talks have not brought us a step away from the brink of war, and closer to deescalation, is a misreading of the situation.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTRIES

THE United States does not wish to see Javier Perez de Cuellar succeed in his mission, and therefore, it has provided him with trade and impossible conditions to be submitted to Tariq Aziz at the Amman meeting, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Saturday. The paper noted that Washington has been offering conflicting views and justifications for sending its troops and naval forces to the Gulf — claiming at the beginning that these forces were to defend Saudi Arabia against Iraqi aggression, then announcing that they are for forcing Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait and for destroying Iraq's power. Furthermore, the paper said, Washington has reportedly refused all Iraqi bids to settle the issue. According to Monte Carlo radio Iraq had agreed to withdraw from Kuwait on condition that foreign forces leave Saudi Arabia, that Iraq be given control of the Rumelieh oil field with an end to the current blockade, the paper said. Although Washington does not want a settlement, at least the European countries like France and the Soviet Union want to see peace prevailing in the Gulf and they ought to come up with constructive ideas to help the U.N. Secretary General defuse the crisis, said the paper. Washington's attitude and its ultimatum for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait in three days time, said the paper, ought to prompt other countries in the world to support a peaceful plan advocated by Arab heads of state to end the problem in the Gulf.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily criticises Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national airline, for discrimination in the distribution of duties for hostesses aboard its aircraft. Non-Jordanian foreign stewardesses employed by RJ, Naufi says, have been relieved of the duty of serving aboard planes heading for Gulf states in view of the current political situation there and for fear that their presence could be dangerous to their lives. The writer notes that only Jordanian hostesses have been assigned the duty of serving aboard planes operating between Amman and Gulf cities, and says that the RJ management should be fairer in dealing with this situation. Since Jordanian and non-Jordanian stewardesses are both employed by the national airlines, they must be assigned duty on equitable basis, says the writer. Safety and protection measures offered to the foreign hostesses, he says, should also be available at the same level and degree to Jordanian hostesses.

Al Dastour daily criticised the Arab League for taking decisions that can only serve the objectives of the United States. Jordan supports the Arab League and its various organisations, and has been contributing to the league's operations and participating in its success in a number of fields, but it cannot accept the idea of seeing the Arab League transformed into a chamber annexed to the White House, said the paper. Jordan absented itself from the foreign ministers meeting under the Arab League in Cairo because it can by no means support an American-Israeli alliance in the Gulf, said the paper. Jordan, the paper added, can by no means join the chorus of those propagating the views and the instructions given by Bush and Margaret Thatcher, and can only feel pained to see the United States dominating the meetings of the Arab League.

## Britain's democratic principles and the Middle East

By Izzat Dajani

The writer is honorary consul general of the Republic of Seychelles in Jordan. He is also an executive member of the Cultural Committee of the Jordan-British Society. Mr. Dajani contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

THE idiosyncrasy in the Western world has become so appalling that the truth has become masked with strange ideas. There is constant talk concerning the interests of the U.S. and Britain, the safeguarding of Western needs, and the fostering of Western-style democracy in the developing world. However, it is not sufficient where the Western interests end so those of the developing world can start. In many parts of the Arab World, governance is somewhat divorced from the aspirations, interests and general consensus of the populace. Most governments were either self-appointed through revolutionary takeovers, or were superimposed by colonial powers in the area.

Jordan, a unique and acclaimed democracy in the Arab World, feels particularly "injured" by the British attitude in the current Gulf crisis. The rhetoric in the British press calls for the destruction of the Iraqi fire

power, the retreat of the Iraqi occupying forces from Kuwait, the restoration of the legitimate Kuwaiti government and eventually the removal of "tyrant" Saddam Hussein due to his expansionist policies and his possession of chemical weapons. To a naive reader and observer, and without much value judgment, these demands seem reasonable and somehow justified. However, to most Jordanians and Arabs, they represent a paradigm in hypocrisy and short-sightedness. Britain, with its declining influence in the West, found an opening for a leading role by adopting

"blindly" the American policy and attitude in the Gulf crisis. I say hypocrisy because Britain speaks of the illegitimacy of occupation by coercion and denounces Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, though it has failed for a long time, and still does, to seriously address the illegitimate occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, the Golan Heights and the south of Lebanon by Israel. Palestinian rights are totally and constantly ignored. The Palestinian homeland is further denied in the shameful world of new-found democracies. U.N. Resolution 242, incidentally a British-drawn resolution, has failed to be implemented for 23 years due to constant neglect by Britain and

the U.S. of Palestinian and Arab aspirations, and subjugation to the powerful Jewish lobby and its influences. Justice remained an element of political and personal patterns overshadowed by winning Jewish votes, particularly in the U.S. and to a certain degree Britain. Palestinians exerted little influence on the U.S.-led West and hence their rights were curtailed to an absolute minimum. It was only when the political "stability" was shaken, whereby energy supply to the West appeared threatened, combined with personal egoism, that suddenly Arab legitimacy in that part of the Arab World became recognisable. Needless to say Israel's influence in escalating the issue to alarming dimensions has also been forgotten or ignored.

The legitimacy of the Kuwaiti government is very subjective in term and meaning. In my understanding, legitimacy stems from the seal of approval by the people in any one country, even if it were "Arab." It is up to the people to choose who governs even if their national consensus opts for a government that exemplifies and fulfills their own national interests without much prejudice to the legitimate needs of energy for every country in the world, and not just those of Britain and the U.S. This is fundamental in the

rules of the game of democracy.

Israel's record of humanity, justice and democracy that is worthy of world support, is the superordinate in the shamefully hypocritical world. Homes of innocent people are bulldozed and demolished; suspects are arrested and jailed without trial; human rights are totally ignored; Palestinians receive obnoxious prison sentences for minor crimes as compared to petty sentence terms to Israelis with more serious crimes including murdering Arabs; and so on and so forth.

Iraq's possession of chemical arsenal is in no way as serious as Israel's buildup of nuclear, chemical and bacteriological capabilities. Since Israel used "napalm bombs" in its wars with the Arab World, there is no reason to believe that nuclear and other weaponry will not be used. Furthermore, Israel rejected, and still does, all international requests to abide by international law and rule and allow inspection of its nuclear plants. The international silence on such Israeli abhorrence of the world order will prove regrettable one day, and hopefully will not be too late then. Yet Israel is acclaimed to be the only democracy in the Middle East. Time may prove, much to the West's dislike, otherwise. Speaking of removing Saddam

Hussein from office because he is a "tyrant" is the epitome of the ludicrous world we live in. This world will be full of "tyrants" that should be removed whenever national policy and interests do not coincide and agree with other countries. It is interesting to note that the developing world is showing better signs of political maturity than many countries in the West, since their leaderships are not called "tyrants" though differences with policies, needs and aspirations between the Western and developing world are as wide and diverse as ever.

There seems to be a constant failure by Britain and many Western countries to explain why President Saddam Hussein is an Arab hero to the Arab population at large irrespective of the official positions in various Arab countries. Saddam is looked upon as the new "renaissance" hero in the Arab World as he was able to highlight the injustice inflicted upon people in this supposedly free world, and between the haves and have-nots. People needed to speak out as they witnessed the dramatic changes in Eastern Europe. They were constantly denied what others were constantly supported to obtain. The world's insensitivity to the needs of the area is amenable to the changes witnessed in this region.

There is an abundance of examples of Arab grievances across the years, but the students of history in the Western world seem to be few if any. President Saddam, portrays what the majority sees as right and just but let denied and further denied. He represents the only balance of power in the Middle East as Iraq is the real and only deterrent to the expansionist Israeli and Zionist policies. He represents a key element of support to the Palestinians who are subjected to the utmost of unfairness, injustice and inhumanity — their forced evacuation from the Palestinian land to be replaced by Soviet and other Jewish immigrants.

If Britain's Mrs. Thatcher speaks of principles then she must apply them across the board and not just when personal interests dictate. She needs to co-opt righteousness, rather than mask truth and justice. The rhetoric has to stop so that there is no dichotomy of interests: speaking of democracy and justice on the one hand, and denying it when and where it proves unsuitable on the other. Mrs. Thatcher should apply the same principles to other countries for what she preaches at home if Britain were to remain a great democracy admired by all nations and by Jordan in particular.

## Mohawk Indians score major victory

By Russell Blinch  
Reuter

OTTAWA — Canada's tough brinkmanship may have led to the tearing down of Mohawk Indian barricades but the country's restless natives probably scored a major victory in focusing attention on their long-standing grievances.

After decades of retreat and inaction, Indian leaders believe Ottawa and the provincial governments must now take their demands much more seriously and act more quickly to address them.

"In the past the only alternative for the Indian has been to turn to the bottle or to the gun," said Andrew Delisle, a spokesman for the Mohawk nation in Quebec.

Mohawk warriors and Canadian soldiers began tearing down barricades last week blocking a major Montreal commuter bridge moments before the army was to launch an attack.

Negotiations are continuing to bring down the blockades at Oka, Quebec, where the confrontation started after the town's decision to expand a golf course on land the Mohawks considered sacred.

Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa, backed by Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney,

called in the army to take down the barricades on the premise the Mohawks were negotiating in bad faith and civil order was threatened.

There were fears the well-armed Mohawks, numbering about 200, would have been slaughtered if they had held their ground against the tanks and the thousands of troops massed against them.

Indian chiefs from across Canada said they were proud the Mohawks dismantled the barricades themselves and averted bloodshed.

"The Mohawks have done us proud," said Phil Phontaine, leader of the assembly of Manitoba chiefs.

There are some 500,000 natives with official Indian status, or about 1.5 per cent of Canada's population, most of whom live on reservations.

However, there are a disproportionate number of Indians in Canada's jails and poverty and illiteracy rates on the 2,263 reservations are comparable to the Third World.

Indians are pressing for more autonomy and settlement of long-standing land claims as a way of alleviating their plight.

But they complain governments put them at the bottom of

their priority list. Indians have more than 500 unsettled land claims but Ottawa maintains it can consider only a few each year.

Natives say the extreme measures have obviously worked.

The barricades at Oka were thrown up early this year and Mohawks at another Montreal area reserve blockaded the Mercier commuter bridge after police stormed the Oka bastion.

Later Indians from across Canada blocked rail lines, roads and staged other protests in a strong and perhaps unprecedented show of solidarity.

The standoff has also cast a national and international spotlight on Canadian natives.

"Indians have had a raw deal in this country," South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu told reporters during a visit in August to an Ontario reserve while the crisis was raging in Quebec.

Delisle said he hopes after the Mohawk standoff is finally settled the government will realise native unrest will only grow if they do not move more quickly to address their concerns.

"It means the government and the people have to sit down and start talking seriously so that this situation won't happen again," Delisle said.

## Turkey puts on brave face over sanctions burden

By Nassir Shirkhani  
Reuter

ANKARA — Turkey is losing billions of dollars by joining the U.N. sanctions war against Baghdad but is putting on a brave face over its sacrifices.

It hopes to be repaid with aid and political support from the West.

"If the Gulf crisis drags on for one year, Turkey's trade losses will rise to \$4.3 billion," Memduh Hacıoglu, chairman of the Istanbul Chamber of Industry said.

Compensation for Ankara could come in different ways.

One hope is that Turkey's actions will improve its chances of entering the European Community, a goal clouded by its record of human rights and the Cyprus problem. Turkey has some 29,000 troops occupying the Mediterranean island's northern third.

Turkey dealt a heavy blow to Iraq's economy by supporting U.N. sanctions imposed to punish Baghdad for its invasion of Kuwait on Aug. 2.

It shut down a twin pipeline across Turkish territory which carried 1.5 million barrels of crude a day — nearly half of Iraq's daily exports.

Ankara further tightened the noose by blocking exports for

Iraq and thousands of tonnes of food and other vital supplies bound for Baghdad are lying in Turkish ports.

"Turkey has behaved like a true European country and will reap the returns in its relations with the European Community at the time of the EC's enlargement," the semi-official Anatolian News Agency quoted Jerome Paulin, an expert at France's International Foreign Relations institute, as saying.

President Turgut Ozal has urged the West to compensate Ankara through increased trade and has called on the EC to step up imports of Turkish textiles as a first step.

Japan has already said it will help compensate Ankara for the losses it has incurred by closing the Iraqi pipeline.

Diplomats said Turkey had also been in the forefront of the U.N. sanctions because Ozal saw Iraqi President Saddam Hussein as a menacing ruler whose removal would enhance regional peace.

"Ozal is very diffident. He wants Saddam removed. He sees Saddam as a threat to the future stability of the region," said a senior Western diplomat.

Iraq has tried in vain to per-

suade Ankara to ease the economic noose and let supplies across the land border.

"We are implementing the embargo very effectively. Any change in our attitude is far of question," Prime Minister Turgut Akbulut said last week.

Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi was rebuffed this week when he made a special trip to the Turkish border to ask officials to allow food and medicine across the frontier.

The boycott of Iraq is pinching Turkey in several ways. Exports to Iraq and Kuwait, estimated at a billion dollars this year, have dried up. Small companies with contracts in Iraq run the risk of bankruptcy.

Turkey has deprived itself of revenues from the Iraqi pipeline and of imports of oil at favourable prices. The closure has led Turkey to raise petrol prices by 38 per cent.

The Gulf crisis has also dealt blow to the important tourism industry.

Fearing war, Westerners have been cancelling holiday reservations at a rate which could cost Turkey a further one billion dollars this year, according to industry sources.

## New Israeli envoy to U.S. is soft spoken banker

By Miriam Jordan  
Reuter

TEL AVIV — Israel has picked a soft-spoken banker and parliamentarian with a scholarly air for its top job abroad — ambassador to the United States.

Officials hope the choice of Zalman Shoval, 60, will ease strains over Middle East peace moves with Washington. Israel's closest ally and supplier of \$3 billion in aid each year.

Shoval is likely to adhere to the policies of right-wing Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir but officials hope his pragmatic politics and business background will bring a fresh approach to Israeli diplomacy.

"I have never believed in Israeli annexation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. I definitely

do not agree with the concept of a Greater Israel," said German-born Shoval, who has a doctorate in international relations.

"We need a functional compromise," he told Reuters.

"We have to find way ultimately for Israel, the Palestinians and perhaps Jordan, to share functions and responsibilities where all these people, certainly the Palestinians, would have legitimate rights."

Israel captured the occupied territories in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. The areas are home to 1.75 million Palestinians waging a 32-month-old revolt against Israel.

Shoval, who has published many articles on foreign policy, scorned fellow politicians who believed Iraq's takeover of Kuwait had pushed the Palesti-

nian issue to one side.

He said an Iraqi attack on Israel would trigger a devastating counter-attack.

"With a man like (Iraqi President) Saddam Hussein there is a distinct danger. But... he must also know that starting a war with Israel would be a war Israel would finish," he said.

Shoval's appointment was agreed on before his two-member Rafi Ometz faction backed Shamir's coalition with right-wing and religious parties established in June.

Shoval is a founder of Rafi Ometz, founded by dissidents of the Labour Party which joined the rightist Herut Party and centre-right groups in the Likud bloc.

U.S.-Israel ties have been rocky since a Labour-Likud coalition collapsed in March over Shamir's refusal to accept U.S. proposals leading to first-ever peace talks between Israelis and Palestinians.

"Being a businessman rather than an ideologist will make him more accessible to the business communities and other sectors in America with which there has been little contact," one Israeli official said.

Shoval began his political career, David Ben-Gurion. He followed Ben-Gurion out of the Labour Party and replaced his mentor in parliament in 1970.

A retired lieutenant colonel, Shoval was also close to Moshe Dayan and served as his deputy in the foreign ministry from 1977 to 1980.

His appointment marks the first time Israel has chosen a diplomatic envoy from the business sector. Officials said it had taken nearly a month to finalise his posting because it raised questions about conflict of interests.

Shoval was chairman of the board of the Bank of Jerusalem, a housing and mortgage bank, and during a 1981-1988 break from parliament, he was managing director of the Israeli branch of a financial and real estate firm.

Educated in the United States and Switzerland, Shoval's doctoral dissertation focused on solutions for the West Bank and Gaza.

Nearly 90,000 Jews live among the Palestinians of the territories in heavily guarded settlements at the heart of Israeli-American differences. Washington says they are an obstacle to peace.

"If there are Jewish settle-

ments... they should be mainly established in areas vital to our security," Shoval said.

He insisted that Iraq's invasion of Kuwait had proven that Israeli assessments of the region had been correct all along.

"I do hope that people abroad... have awakened to the real realities in our part of the world."

"Unfortunately some of our friends abroad were influenced by the argument that if Israel were only to withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza Strip and a Palestinian state would be set up, all the problems of the Middle East would be resolved."

"We could only imagine what would happen if the PLO that has aligned itself with the Iraqi aggression were given political power base in our immediate neighbourhood," Shoval said.



Colonialism won't go away

(Continued from page 1)

the people living there. We created a situation where people felt they had been wronged."

Britain's ties to the Gulf date back to the 18th century when the British began setting up trading posts and strategic alliances along the coastal route to India. One of those places was Kuwait, an impoverished and obscure seaport that had been under the control of the sprawling Ottoman Empire but gradually had become the feudal domain of the nomadic Sabah clan.

For generations, the Sabahs skillfully played off the British against the Turks, seeking the protection of each in times of trouble. Then in 1899, a new sheik, Mubarak Sabah, who took the throne after killing his two half-brothers, agreed to make Kuwait a formal protectorate of Britain in return for 15,000 pounds a year. The Ottoman Empire never gave up its claim of sovereignty over Kuwait, but treated it as a semi-autonomous district and the Sabahs as Ottoman governors. After World War I, Britain and France divided the spoils of the defunct Ottoman Empire, drawing new borders and installing ruling families loyal to the two European countries. One of the new states was Iraq, an amalgam that included three ethnically divided, former Turkish provinces — Kurdish dominated Mosul, Sunni Muslim Baghdad and Shi'ite Muslim Basra — created in 1922.

"Woodrow Wilson had disappeared by then and there wasn't much rubbish about self-determination," recalled Parsons. "We, the British, cobbled Iraq together. It was always an artificial state; it had nothing to do with the people who lived there."

Even before the discovery of oil, the new Iraq was the wealthiest, most politically sophisticated of the new Arab nations. What it lacked was access to the sea, something the British War Office deliberately had chosen to deny the new country to limit its influence in the Gulf and keep it dependent on Britain.

"It was intentional, not by accident," said a London-based Iraqi political scientist who has studied British historical records on the making of Iraq. "It was British policy to prevent Iraq from becoming a Gulf state, because Britain thought Iraq would be a threat to its own domination of the Gulf."

The issue was virtually ignored at the 1922 Uqair conference where the major dispute was over Saudi Arabia's borders with Iraq and Kuwait. Iraq was represented by a junior cabinet minister, Kuwait by a British political agent. Neither had much to say once Sir Percy decided where to put the markers, according to Dickson's account.

Still, Iraq never dropped the matter. Iraqi King Ghazi Ibn Faisal proposed a union with Kuwait in the 1930s, but was rejected by the Sabahs and their British protectors.

Two decades later, after the Iraqi monarchy was overthrown in a bloody 1958 coup, Baghdad tried again. When Kuwait declared its independence in 1961 and British troops

U.N., Iraq conclude talks

(Continued from page 1)

through an "Arab solution," Aziz said that "this does not mean that the international community is not involved or interested... (it) does not mean that the United Nations has no role."

"The situation is a dramatic and complicated one... such a situation cannot be resolved by dramatic diplomacy," Aziz told journalists. "It needs quiet diplomacy and patience..." said Aziz, who held a two and half hours of talks with Perez de Cuellar in the presence of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, earlier in the day.

"We in Iraq share the views of a great number of Arab leaders and people that this is an Arab problem and must be resolved by Arab means," Aziz said in his short statement. Aziz did not answer any questions from the press about a back-draft of conflicting reports that he and the U.N. chief were on the verge of arriving at a compromise formula which would have frozen the situation in the Gulf and opened the door for further negotiations among the parties involved. The reported formula involved Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, a U.N. force deploying there and an Arab force taking positions in Saudi Arabia.

Describing his talks with the secretary-general as "very useful," Aziz also expressed "Iraq's thanks and appreciation to those leaders who shouldered their national responsibility..." in an apparent reference to efforts by Jordan, the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Libya, which announced its own peace plan for the Gulf Saturday, and Tunisia and Yemen, whose envoys are touring Arab and foreign countries in a bid to contain the crisis within the Arab umbrella.

Aziz reserved some of his hard-hitting comments for the five permanent members of the Security Council, particularly the United States. "...Some of these countries (in the Security Council) are not neutral in their stance because these stand stem from their personal interests (which do) not to serve international peace," he said.

Visibly angry and bitter over the haste with which the Security Council adopted a series of resolutions condemning Iraq, Aziz accused the United States of selective application of its powers in the council.

He cited an example the American veto earlier this year of a Security Council resolution calling for the dispatch of a fact-finding mission to the Israeli-occupied territories. "When 14 members (of the council) voted in favour of the resolution, only one member, the United States, undermined the effort" by vetoing the resolution, he pointed out.

"If the Arabs had this right, this veto right, the resolutions against Iraq would never have passed," he said.

Perez de Cuellar refused to speak to journalists but scheduled a press conference for Sunday morning. The only answer he would provide to questions from the press at the palace Saturday evening was that he and Aziz discussed "everything."

Aziz left immediately for home after the meeting. It was not clear Saturday whether Perez de Cuellar, who said Friday that he was looking forward to a meeting with His Majesty King Hussein, will stay on in Amman after his press conference Sunday to consult the King, who was in West Germany Sunday on the last



Tariq Aziz

but one leg of a North African and European trip.

Following is a transcript of Aziz's statement to the press Saturday.

I listened to (the U.N. secretary general) carefully and tried to brief him about our position. We exchanged views about the current situation. I listened to him carefully and told him about our situation and the ways and means to reach the common goal which we share with the secretary general, which is peace and stability in the region.

The situation is a complicated and dramatic one. From my humble personal experience, such a situation cannot be resolved by dramatic diplomacy. It needs patience, it needs time and people (should) understand the positions. They (should) give enough time for sincere and constructive exchange of views and when that is provided then people might settle problems.

We in Iraq share the views of a great number of Arab leaders and people that this is an Arab problem and it must be resolved by Arab means, for example an Arab solution. Those responsible Arab leaders have to do their best, and some of them are doing their best, in trying to find an Arab solution to the problem. There is no other solution.

This does not mean the international community is not involved or interested. It does not mean that the United Nations secretary general has no role. On the contrary I told him that the first mission of the secretary general is the mission of peacemaker and we are in the business of making peace. So he must be with us all the time with his wisdom, time, help and encouragement. So our friend Mr. Perez de Cuellar is always welcome and needed by those Arab leaders who are trying to do their best to find a solution. The position of my government is very supportive (of) and sympathetic to the role of the secretary general.

There is a fact that has to be taken into consideration when we speak about the Security Council of the United Nations. It is an international body, yes, but it is formed of governments... there are

Yemen suspends oil exports to meet domestic petrol need

DUBAI (R)—Yemen has halted crude oil exports for at least two months to meet a chronic domestic petrol shortage as crude supplies to its main refinery from Iraq and Kuwait have dried up.

Oil ministry officials told Reuters Friday that Yemen had declared force majeure on its September crude exports of 100,000 barrels per day (b/d) — Sanaa's 51 per cent share of total exports.

The country would also not export any of its crude in October and possibly November, they said.

The officials said the remaining 49 per cent of exports by a consortium led by Yemen Hunt Oil Company, a subsidiary of U.S.

Cairo meeting backs embargo

(Continued from page 1)

"The difference between us is a question of the way of handling the crisis. They think the action taken by the Arab League would hamper a (peaceful) solution, we do not think so," he said.

League officials said ministers unanimously decided to hold another extraordinary meeting in Cairo on Sept. 10 to announce the transfer of the Arab League's headquarters from Tunis back to Cairo.

Iraq, one of the prime movers in the transfer of the headquarters back to Cairo, now opposes the move.

Abdul Meguid read out the five resolutions adopted by foreign ministers and other representatives at the council meeting, which ended Friday night. Twelve of the participants approved the resolutions. Libya opposed.

In reply to a question, Abdul Meguid admitted the existence of an Arab split but added: "It is not the end of the league."

"It is for Iraq to take the lead (propose a solution) and not for others to take (accept) compromise on this act of aggression," he said in English.

Abdul Meguid said the league supports current talks in Amman between U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz.

Referring to the presence of U.S. and other foreign forces in Saudi Arabia and elsewhere in the Gulf region, Abdul Meguid said it is the inherent right of any country to seek support when threatened.

Chadli Klibi, the Arab League secretary-general, told the news conference that he relayed the ministerial resolutions to the eight league members who did not attend the meeting.

The eight were Iraq, Sudan, Tunisia, Algeria, the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Jordan, Mauritania and Yemen. They, plus Libya, opposed, abstained or expressed reservations in the vote on the Aug. 10 summit resolution.

Commodities rationed

(Continued from page 1)

Kingdom, restaurants, hotels, candy factories and finally smugglers, who used to smuggle a great deal abroad to sell for higher prices.

The government had allocated JD 60 million for subsidising basic food commodities, but the actual figures were expected to run far higher by the end of the year which, Faneek said, could prompt the government to cancel the subsidy policy altogether thus burning limited income.

"The amounts of subsidised food assigned by the Ministry of Supply to each individual are enough, and those wishing to spend more, can buy at higher prices," said Faneek.

He said that those who can afford to buy more for their banquets or for excessive spending ought not to be allowed to do that at the expense of the poor, and the rich should not be allowed to enjoy the benefits of subsidised commodities.

Distribution of food supplies through ration cards, Faneek said, is bound to ensure equitable shares for all Jordanian citizens, specially those wishing to reduce consumption and use up only the necessary quantities of food. He said that the food rationing system is bound to save millions of dinars annually for the treasury, and will put an end to smuggling and excessive spending.

This system is especially successful in times of war when everybody will get his/her needs, said Faneek. Without this important rationing system he added, only the rich will be able to obtain their requirements.

Khalil Hussein Ibrahim, a taxi driver, complained that the ration set by the ministry were not enough.

Ibrahim, a father of three, said his family consumes half a kilo of powdered milk everyday and 50 kilos of sugar every month. That puts him 14 kilos of milk and 40 kilos of sugar short every month.

Ahmad Tihab Saad, a doorman with a family of 10, said he would have to buy 30 kilos of sugar and 35 kilos of rice every month at market prices.

"Eid Kharabshch, with a family of 17, said he would have to buy 40 kilos each of sugar and rice, and 20 kilos of milk at market prices every month, if he maintains his family's current level of consumption.

In general, most people interviewed by the Jordan Times complained the quantities of rations were far below their actual consumption.

Fawziyah Aboudi, a mother of four, said she depends on powdered milk for making yoghurt and labaneh (dried yoghurt). "We consume 10 kilos of milk every month," she said. "My bill will now go up by at least JD 6 for milk only."

Minister Ayoub maintained the measure was basically taken "to keep the standard of living of limited income people." He also cites other reasons for rationing: — Smuggling to neighbouring countries because of low prices in Jordan; — People hoarding and stocking of commodities; — Excessive consumption; and — Use of these commodities in the manufacturing of sweets and soft drinks.

The minister said the move was not associated with the current crisis in the Gulf. "We have been planning for this for the last five months," he said.

However, he said, the timing was right, because people will understand the move better under the circumstances.

He disclosed that the ration cards and coupons were printed outside the country, but would not say where or at what cost.

The minister said that 683 centres all over the Kingdom would have started issuing cards as of Saturday.

Meanwhile, the Association of Bakery Owners voiced concern over the cost of bread. The association president, Abdullah Hamawi, said that sugar used in making bread at the rate of 20 kilos per tonne of wheat.

"We support the move, but we ask that sugar used in bread making be subsidised," he said. Asked how much this would add to the cost of a kilo of bread, Hamawi said "only five fils per kilo."

Qadhafi launches Gulf plan

(Continued from page 1)

also groups Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and Mauritania — meet in Algiers on Sunday.

Qadhafi called for a "unified Arab oil policy" which he said should be enforced by military force. One of Iraq's main grievances against Kuwait stems from charges it deliberately exceeded its Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) oil output quota to depress world oil prices and undermine economic recovery in Iraq.

Libya is a traditional price hawk in OPEC, seeking to maintain tight curbs on production to boost prices.

Qadhafi called for compensation to be paid to all parties that had suffered damages and said his plan should be applied under the auspices of the U.N. and the Arab League.

He reiterated a longstanding proposal for an Arab summit in Libya that would endorse a confederation of Arab states led by a "presidential council" of Arab heads of state.

Libya and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) opposed an Arab summit resolution on Aug. 10 which sent a token Arab force to Saudi Arabia but also endorsed the deployment of U.S. troops.

A five-point PLO plan announced last week calls for U.N. forces to replace foreign troops in the Gulf and links a solution to the Gulf crisis with the Palestinian issue and other Middle East conflicts.

"This plan will ensure peace for the world and the Arab Nation," Qadhafi said.

"Even the United States have an interest in this peaceful solution which will allow it to withdraw and allow an Arab solution, thus avoiding the risk of losing the Arab World."

Qadhafi said United Nations troops should replace the Iraqis in Kuwait to reassure Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states which feel threatened by possible Iraqi attack.

Sultan says no invasion

(Continued from page 1)

saying military action was not an option for at least a month because it would take that long for the forces to be in place.

Prince Sultan, who met with reporters after delivering a speech to a group of Saudi military cadets, said that "any peaceful solution would have in mind the immediate withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait," which he called the "basic requirement" of any diplomatic solution.

He was vague when asked how an Iraqi withdrawal could be achieved without military action, but ruled out any Saudi offensive against Baghdad, saying the kingdom "will not initiate hostilities against other Arab state."

"War should always be a last resort," said Sultan, who spoke from a stage with an interpreter at his side.

Sultan said U.S. and other foreign troops would leave the country when their mission was finished or when the Saudi government asked them to leave.

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## East German Krabbe wins third gold in Split

He handed over to Bruno Marie Rose when she sped up the straight to cross the line with his

Silke Moeller ran the first leg for the East Germans, handing over to Krahbe who raced down the back straight to hand over first to Kerstin Behrendt.

**temper,**  
**g at umpire**

And in the pressure-packed third set tiebreak, it was Seles, 19, who won 7-5.

## wins world

WORD IS SPELLED	I'M NOT TRYING	LET'S SEE
-----------------	----------------	-----------

LET'S SEE

**FORECAST FOR SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 1990**

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A lot of confusion over a dishonest person can get you upset if you allow it

to put your points across to usual control of your own fate.

### East Division

### West Division

### Friday's Games

Boston 7, New York 3  
Toronto 12, Cleveland 8  
Detroit 12, Minnesota 6  
Milwaukee 4, Baltimore  
Seattle 5, Kansas City 2  
Oakland 4, Texas 2  
Chicago 6, California 5

**East Division**

## West Division

### Friday's Games

Chicago 4, Cincinnati 3  
Montreal 5, Los Angeles 2  
New York 4, San Francisco 3  
Philadelphia 4, San Diego 2  
Atlanta 4, St. Louis 1  
Houston 3, Pittsburgh 2

WITH OMAR SHARIF  
& TANNAH HIRSCH

your hand, and you certainly intend to reach game. But you might have a slam, and you don't want to jump in spades with only three-card support. You can suggest slam and

## Mutt'n'Jeff

penalty, I was still right there, ready to play the third set."

In third place was Italy's Luisa Seghezzi, whom Matthes edged 4:40.11, and Jean-Paulle Dojwa of France. Dojwa completed the race in 4:40:39.

4:40:11, and Jean-Fran  ois Dojwa of France. Dojwa completed the race in 4:40:39.

## Peanuts

Panel 1: A boy is sitting at a desk, writing a letter. He is looking down at the paper.

Panel 2: A girl is sitting at a desk, reading the letter. She is looking up at the letter with a surprised expression.

Panel 1 Text: *Dear Biggy Gian,*  
*Have you missed me*  
*as much as I've*  
*missed you?*


Panel 2 Text: ASK HER HOW  
MISSED YOU  
OF 'ONE TO


142-2-11



"What a day! I'm *bushed*!"

**JUMBLE**—by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee  
Unscramble these four jumbles.

Answer here: IN A  (Answers Monday)

Answer here: IN A  (Answers Monday)

THE DAILY CROSSWORD by G.P. MURRAY

Eng. measure  
9 Sucharit  
plate  
0 Spinal  
1 Circle  
measure  
3 Tell

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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

5 Inventor's  
protection  
6 One all

NAVAL  
INSIDE

ORANGE  
DEMENT

4 Statistics	7 Byron poem	HAVE TWO LEFT
5 Adjutant	8 Gen.	AFE TELL RIT
6 Habit	Robert —	REDTIE DOL
8 WWI cannon	9 — Plaines, IL	CHAIRS ASTIR
3 Alight	10 Stage parts	LENO FINGERO
4 Asia Minor	11 Paddy wagon	RAY ACCORD

region	12 Rely	011 QUOTED 12
Attention-	13 Warhol	PROPOSITS SITS
getter	21 "lies --"	THOSE FILIAL
Hidden	22 Formality	RANT TATAMIS
explosive	24 Thwain	OPENER FIMO RE
Warble	25 Revealed	WIT NIGHTATION
Veich	36 Old-Curved	WIT

9	verch	26	Old Gr. coins	ESY	IVIES	FRAS
9	Beteigeuse	27	Nightshade	SNE	DETE	ROMA
0	Fried	28	Cut oil			
t	Jacket style	29	Family group			
		30	Listing			
	DOWN	31	Lanat	40	Give up	49 "What's -
1	Bread share		fortune			

2	Opera's	33	Nip	42	More agitated	me?"
3	Gluck	36	Pro —	43	Earthly	50 A) —
4	Chow —	37	Bear	45	Light-footed	(besides)
5	Hull hanger-	39	Fountain of	46	Charity	51 Adored on
	on		Seeger	47	Lure	52 Last word
				48	Adriatic wind	54 — about it

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Evacués d'Irak et du Koweït en Jordanie

## Les organisations indépendantes prêtent main forte

Depuis bientôt une semaine, une équipe française, belge et hollandaise de «Médecins sans frontières» a installé entre l'Irak et la Jordanie une zone de transit pour les réfugiés sortant d'Irak. «Médecins du monde» fait de même à la périphérie d'Amman. La

En plein désert, dans les dunes du vaste «no man's land» qui sépare la Jordanie de l'Irak, un village de tentes et de paravents vient d'apparaître.

En quatre ou cinq jours, l'équipe de Médecins du monde a mis en place cette zone d'accueil et de transit de 15.000 m<sup>2</sup>.

«Ce qui compte, pour une organisation comme la nôtre, explique le docteur Pierre Harzé, coordinateur de l'équipe, c'est l'efficacité et la rapidité d'intervention». De fait, il ne s'est pas écoulé plus de 72 heures, entre le moment où Médecins sans frontières (MSF) a décidé d'apporter son aide et le moment où son équipe est arrivée en Jordanie avec tout le matériel nécessaire.

Le secret de cette rapidité, c'est l'expérience, et le système ingénieux du «kit». Ce sont des lots tout prêts de matériel et de médicaments,

conçus pour différents types d'intervention (épidémie, catastrophe naturelle, guerre...), qu'il suffit d'embarquer dans un avion pour être immédiatement efficace sur place, quel que soit le problème à résoudre.

«Nous nous devons d'être aussi autonomes et indépendants que possible, explique Pierre Harzé. Il ne servirait à rien que nous arrivions et demandions aux autorités locales un hébergement, du matériel, de la nourriture, etc...: ce serait ajouter des problèmes en lien de les résoudre».

Organisation non gouvernementale (ONG), «Médecins sans frontières» n'a pas à demander d'autorisation à qui que ce soit pour se rendre où l'on a besoin d'elle. Elle est alimentée à 80% par des dons privés et à 20% par des subventions de la Communauté Européenne et du Haut Comité pour les Réfugiés des Na-

Croix rouge et le Croissant rouge sont également présents. Tous travaillent en coordination avec la cellule d'urgence du ministère de l'Intérieur jordanien. Le but de cette opération est clair: aider la Jordanie à gérer au mieux l'afflux des évacués.

tions Unies. Pour cette opération en Jordanie, elle a acheté un kit «ombrage, eau et sanitation» pour un coût de 300.000 dollars, dont la majeure partie est financée exceptionnellement par la Communauté Européenne.

C'est une structure légère, car il n'y a pas de blessés ou de malades à soigner. Il s'agit simplement d'offrir aux réfugiés un point de chute ombragé après leur longue traversée du désert, avec des points d'eau (de grandes outres de 15.000 litres ravitaillées par camions-citernes avec 12 ou 20 points de sortie) et quelques dispensaires pour apporter des soins légers en cas de maladie bénigne. Le kit comprend aussi de quoi désinfecter cette eau pour la rendre potable et de quoi éliminer les déchets pour éviter leur accumulation.

De son côté, Médecins du monde (MDM), la deuxième ONG française derrière MSF, a choisi de s'installer dans un des six camps d'Amman: celui d'Andalous, mis en place sur une ancienne gare routière désaffectée, à 18 km de la capitale jordanienne.

Son équipe d'évaluation et de mise en place, dirigée par le Dr Bernard Benedetti, a passé le relais vendredi à une équipe médicale et technique de quatre personnes (un médecin, un pharmacien, une infirmière et un logisticien) qui ont commencé leur travail dans le camp. Un rôle essentiellement médical et sanitaire cette fois-ci, car beaucoup de femmes et d'enfants s'y trouvent regroupés. MDM a fait venir 4 tonnes de médicaments qui représentent de quoi soigner 20.000 personnes pendant un mois. Les gens

qui arrivent souffrent de fatigue (liée au voyage), de stress (lié à l'incertitude sur leur avenir), d'insolation et de déshydratation», explique Bernard Benedetti. Ce sont souvent des gens pauvres -des familles de manœuvres du bâtiment d'origine asiatique- donc de constitution fragile.

MDM a également fait venir des tentes et des vaches à eau, mais, comme l'explique Bernard Benedetti, «nous ne devons pas installer des centres trop confortables si nous voulons éviter l'engorgement et inciter les gens à rentrer chez eux le plus vite possible. Nous les invitons même à s'établir dans les camps que nous avons dans la plupart de leurs pays d'origine plutôt que de rester ici».

Ces opérations, auxquelles participent aussi la Croix rouge et le Croissant rouge s'inscrivent en fait dans un vaste plan organisé par le ministère de l'Intérieur jordanien pour répartir les réfugiés entre le point d'entrée de Roweish et le point de sortie d'Aqaba. Inutile en effet que les gens s'entassent à l'entrée en attente d'un point de chute, ou à la sortie en attente d'un bateau ou d'un avion. Il a donc été décidé de mettre en place des centres d'accueil sur huit points du parcours, où les réfugiés peuvent faire étape.

Une zone de transit pouvant accueillir 20.000 personnes est installée dans le no man's land; une autre de 10.000 places à Roweish; une de 2.000 à 3.000 places à Azrak; une de 30.000 à Amman; une de 4 à 5.000 à Qatana; une de 6.000 à Ma'an; une de 3 à 4.000 à Quwayra et une dernière de 10.000 places à Aqaba.

Ainsi, avec les gens qui trouvent un point de chute par leurs propres moyens, la Jordanie peut héberger, semble-t-il, jusqu'à 100.000 personnes en permanence sur son territoire. Compte tenu du rythme des sorties, cela signifie qu'elle peut accueillir jusqu'à 20.000 nouveaux arrivants par jour.

Dans les faits, le nombre des entrées est très variable. Il peut passer, en quelques jours, de 10.000 personnes à la réouverture des frontières la semaine dernière (sans doute à cause de l'effet dissuasif de l'annonce de la fermeture) à 20 ou 25.000 personnes.

Pierre Harzé émet deux hypothèses: ou bien le flot se stabilise à ce niveau et les choses se passeront sans trop de problèmes; ou bien le conflit s'envenime, avec des incidents ici ou là, et de plus en plus de gens vont chercher à sortir de l'Irak posant des problèmes de logistique.

«Cela dit, nous avons encore des installations de réserve dans notre premier arrivage, précise-t-il, et nous pouvons toujours faire venir rapidement du renfort, même si nous ne l'envisageons pas pour l'instant». Bernard Benedetti est du même avis. «Maintenant que notre organisation est mobilisée, dit-il, nous sommes capables d'ache-

miner du renfort en 48h. C'est la première fois que MSF ou MDM interviennent en Jordanie, mais elles travaillent déjà beaucoup dans la région: au Liban, dans les territoires occupés, en Iran ou au Yémen. «Depuis notre formation, en 1971, explique Pierre Harzé, beaucoup d'organisations se sont fondées sur notre modèle et sous le même nom, dans différents pays d'Europe: Belgique, Suisse, Hollande, Espagne et Luxembourg». C'est ce qui explique que les membres de l'équipe MSF-présente ici

CLIN

D'CEIL

Histoire

Un beau jour de l'année 2090, on évoquera sans doute dans les manuels d'histoire les événements vécus aujourd'hui dans ce Moyen-Orient mouvementé.

On parlera d'un certain George Bush, d'un certain Saddam Hussein et de l'annexion du Koweït. Mais l'on tentera surtout de vérifier si, il y a un siècle, la crise du Golfe constituait bien un chapitre dans l'histoire de la région.

On parlera en fait d'une «crise» israélo-arabe qui, contrairement à d'autres crises, avait duré des décennies.

En 2090, on analysera également l'Intifada, qui entre ce lundi dans son millième jour.

Bref, on comprendra enfin -surtout en Occident- que l'histoire de la région est plus qu'une succession hors contexte des événements.

Si les journalistes, parmi bien d'autres, étaient un peu plus historiens, leur couverture des faits aurait un peu plus de SENS.

Ayman Masannat

soient belges, français et hollandais.

Créée, elle, en 1979, pour une grande opération de sauvetage des boat-people, MDM a payé sur son budget les 300.000 dollars que lui coûte l'opération, mais a demandé à la CEE une subvention d'un montant équivalent.

«L'équipement que nous avons ici nous permet d'accueillir 10.000 personnes pendant trois mois, explique le coordinateur de MSF, mais nous resterons aussi longtemps qu'il le faudra». Bernard Benedetti est du même avis.

Jean-Marc Bordes

EN BREF

ONU-Irak. Après cinq résolutions du Conseil de Sécurité des Nations-Unies et une douzaine de jours d'absence, M. Perez de Cuellar, secrétaire général de l'ONU, a estimé que le moment était venu pour lui «d'entreprendre des efforts diplomatiques destinés à soulager la présente crise dans le Golfe, dans tous ses aspects, par le biais d'un processus de dialogue». Il a rencontré hier et avant-hier à Amman le ministre irakien des Affaires étrangères, M. Tarek Aziz.

Rationnement. Le ministre de l'approvisionnement jordanien, M. Ibrahim Ayoub, a annoncé hier la mise en place immédiate d'un système de cartes de rationnement pour les produits alimentaires subventionnés par le gouvernement: il s'agit essentiellement du lait, du sucre, du blé et du riz. Ces produits pourront être achetés au-delà du quota autorisé à condition de les payer au prix non subventionné.

Asiatiques. Le gouvernement indien a envoyé lundi quatre avions civils et un appareil militaire à Bagdad pour récupérer des centaines de ressortissants indiens bloqués en Irak ou qui se sont réfugiés en Jordanie à partir du Koweït. Le Bangladesh, de son côté, a demandé à une douzaine de pays amis de l'aider matériellement à rapatrier des dizaines de milliers de ses ressortissants bloqués dans le Golfe. La CEE a annoncé vendredi qu'elle allait consacrer 1,7 millions de dollars à l'aide au rapatriement des milliers de réfugiés qui se massent en Jordanie après avoir fui l'Irak et le Koweït. Cette nouvelle aide servira en particulier à affréter des bateaux pour transporter des Philippins et des Sri-Lankais.

Evacuation. Toutes les femmes et tous les enfants étrangers accueillis en Irak sont autorisés à quitter le pays à l'annonce mercredi du président irakien Saddam Hussein. Déjà, un groupe de 19 femmes et enfants italiens ont quitté l'Irak par la route pour Amman. 237 autres femmes et enfants ont quitté Bagdad hier soir à bord de deux avions d'Iraqi-Airways (malgré le blocus) à destination, l'un de Amman et l'autre de Paris, Londres et Washington. Ce groupe comprend notamment 132 Britanniques, 66 Japonais, 19 Français, 14 Américains et deux Australiens.

Congrès. Les principaux parlementaires américains ont exprimé mardi leur soutien à la politique de fermeté face à l'Irak du président George Bush, qui les a appelés à l'unité dans la crise du Golfe. Selon le speaker démocrate de la Chambre des représentants, les membres du Congrès ont rendu hommage à la façon dont M. Bush a su obtenir une coopération internationale face à l'Irak mais il a ajouté que des parlementaires avaient fait part de leur préoccupation quant au coût de l'opération de déploiement des troupes américaines en Arabie Saoudite, soulignant que les alliés devaient participer au financement de l'opération et déployer des forces terrestres dans la région.

Israël. Selon le New-York Times d'hier, Israël viendrait d'obtenir des Etats-Unis une aide de 1 milliard de dollars en armes (qui s'ajoute aux 1,8 milliards déjà versés cette année) en compensation du soutien apporté par les Américains à l'Arabie Saoudite. Il s'agirait notamment de missiles sol-air et de chars M60.

Crash. Treize personnes ont trouvé la mort dans l'accident du Galaxy C-5 appartenant au dispositif des Etats-Unis dans le Golfe, qui s'est écrasé en décollage dans le nuit de mardi à mercredi, à proximité de la base américaine de Ramstein (ouest de la RFA). Il y avait à bord de l'avion cargo militaire américain 17 personnes, dont une dizaine de membres d'équipage. L'avion Galaxy C-5, notamment déployé dans le pont aérien entre les Etats-Unis et l'Arabie Saoudite, est un quadri réacteur de transport militaire. Plus gros avion cargo employé par l'US Air Force, il est notamment le seul capable de transporter le char lourd américain, M1 Abrams.

Désertion. Un marin australien a été placé en garde à vue mercredi et risque des mesures disciplinaires pour avoir déserté la force d'intervention dans le Golfe, expliquant qu'il ne pouvait supporter la vue du président américain jouant au golf tandis que des jeunes gens risquent leur vie. «Je ne suis pas un lâche», a déclaré Terry Jones, 23 ans, qui avait sauté du bateau sur lequel il était embarqué. Je suis prêt à mourir pour mon pays, mais pas pour protéger le pétrole des Etats-Unis.

Tornades. De violentes tornades se sont abattues mardi aux Etats-Unis sur le nord de l'Illinois, faisant au moins 24 morts et de nombreux blessés, dont près de 300 ont dû être hospitalisés. Quarante-dix maisons et un immeuble d'habitation ont été détruits. Les tornades ont principalement touché trois agglomérations, situées à une soixantaine de kilomètres au nord-ouest de Chicago.

Catastrophe. 180 mineurs ont été tués dans l'explosion d'une mine à Krka-Dobnja (centre de la Yougoslavie) le week-end dernier.

Unité. Le traité d'Etat réglant les modalités juridiques de l'unification allemande prévue pour le 3 octobre a été officiellement signé vendredi à Berlin-est par le ministre ouest-allemand de l'Intérieur et le secrétaire d'Etat est-allemand, Günter Krause. Le traité, qui comprend près de 900 pages, fixe les conditions et les détails de la fusion allemande, plus de 40 ans après la partition du pays. Il doit être soumis au cours du mois de septembre aux parlements des deux Etats allemands pour ratification.

Pape. Le pape Jean-Paul II a débuté hier à Dar Es Salaam (Tanzanie) une tournée africaine, dont il espère qu'elle permettra d'attirer l'attention du monde sur le plus pauvre des continents. Au cours de son voyage de dix jours, qui constitue sa septième visite sur le continent noir, le souverain pontife se rendra dans trois pays de l'Afrique de l'est, la Tanzanie, le Burundi et le Rwanda. Avant de regagner Rome, le pape consacra la basilique de Yamoussoukro, en Côte d'Ivoire, copie conforme de la basilique Saint-Pierre de Rome.

Rouge. Les douaniers du Pas de la Casa, poste frontière entre la principauté d'Andorre et le sud de la France, ont saisi 4.608 faux tubes de rouge à lèvres Chanel. La valeur de ce stock sur le marché des cosmétiques est évaluée à 400.000 F (77.000 dollars). Le parfumeur parisien a l'intention de porter plainte pour contrefaçon.

quand on se permet de perdre dans les casinos européens, en une soirée, l'équivalent de la dette extérieure d'un pays sous-développé, avant de regagner, au pays, un harem climatisé ou attendent une vingtaine de concubines internationales.

Et le président Saddam Hussein? Il vient de se signaler à l'«animadversion» universelle pour avoir osé lancer un défi au monde occidental en général et à l'Amérique en particulier.

Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber écrivait: «dans les sociétés, comme pour les hommes, il n'y a pas de croissance sans défi». Or, l'Arabe, caricaturé invariablement dans les bandes dessinées retenant au mieux un chameau, au pire un âne, au pied de derrick entourés de dunes, avait besoin d'un Saddam Hussein pour lui rendre les trois piliers de la grandeur arabe d'antan: l'honneur, la dignité et la fierté.

«L'histoire étant la plus partiale des sciences» (Romain Rolland), il n'y a plus à démontrer de quelles manières les peuples arabes ont été asservis, bafoués, humiliés, trompés même dans leurs convictions religieuses, pour

Les exemples foisonnent: Vietnam, Algérie, Afghanistan, Iran/Irak, Palestine, Sahara occidental, etc...

Pour terminer, je pose simplement la question suivante: Que feraient Bush et Thatcher si des visionnaires et chefs d'Etat comme de Gaulle, Nasser, Tito, Khrouchchev, Nehru et autres monuments qui font et défont l'histoire, étaient encore en vie, ou tout au moins au pouvoir?

Rachid Bontella

## LA SEMAINE...

de Suleiman Swais

### Le «front» de la paix

Au fil des jours, il semble que la raison soit en train de l'emporter sur les penchants de guerre, de part et d'autre dans le Golfe arabe. Quelques bons signes: les déclarations virulentes ont diminué et les envois d'émissaires, les rencontres, les initiatives et les visites se multiplient aux niveaux arabe et international, en vue de trouver une solution politique à la crise du Golfe.

A la base de cette recherche assidue d'éviter la guerre, il y a certes la volonté profonde de plusieurs dirigeants et gouvernements de sauvegarder la paix dans cette région souvent déstabilisée par des conflits. A côté de ce motif noble, il y a aussi les «calculs» réalistes qui ont été faits cette semaine par une partie de l'administration américaine. Celle-ci est convaincue aujourd'hui qu'une solution militaire porterait un coup dur à l'Irak, certes, mais aboutirait en même temps à des conséquences négatives pour les intérêts américains dans le monde arabe. Certains mettent en garde contre l'enlèvement dans un «nouveau Vietnam».

Il est vrai qu'Henry Kissinger et ses «disciples» du département d'Etat préchent pour une guerre-éclair immédiate, mais d'autres, plus nombreux, préfèrent donner la priorité pour l'instant aux mesures d'embargo économique décidées par le Conseil de Sécurité contre l'Irak ces dernières semaines.

Ce «débat» à l'intérieur de l'administration Bush -pour ne pas parler de divergences- se reflète de plus en plus dans la presse américaine et anglo-saxonne. Chaque jour ou presque, des commentaires, des articles et des lettres révèlent des fragments de ce qu'on peut appeler dorénavant «d'opposition à la guerre». A titre d'exemple, cette lettre publiée dans le «New York Times» et reproduite mercredi dernier dans le «Jordan Times». Elle est adressée au président Bush par Alex Molnar, professeur de l'université du Wisconsin. L'auteur s'y oppose fermement à toute attaque ou action militaire menée par les troupes américaines dans le Golfe.

D'autres articles évoquent le coût élevé du stationnement des troupes en Arabie ou encore les difficultés auxquelles se heurtent les soldats.

Plus significatif encore sont les résultats des sondages d'opinion publiés au début de la semaine dernière par «Newsweek» et d'autres organes américains. Il en ressort une tendance croissante des Américains à s'opposer à la guerre. Déjà des groupes de pression, des personnalités, des organisations et des comités se manifestent et réclament le retrait des troupes américaines de la péninsule arabe. Entre autres, les vétérans du Vietnam et les musulmans des Etats-Unis. Les motifs de cette opposition sont divers: humaniste, pacifiste, économique. Certains constatent combien la haine anti-américaine est forte parmi les peuples arabes et que le temps travaille en sa faveur.

D'autre part, semaine après semaine, le conflit prend des dimensions nouvelles: on se rend compte aujourd'hui qu'en fond la confrontation en cours n'est pas seulement entre l'Irak et les Etats-Unis mais bien entre le Nord et le Sud, autrement dit entre les riches et les pauvres de ce monde. L'explosion du conflit, si elle a lieu, sera l'occasion de régler les comptes entre ces deux camps.

Autre indice qui donne de l'élan aux efforts de paix, les assurances données par les dirigeants irakiens au président autrichien Kurt Waldheim qu'ils ne veulent en aucun cas une confrontation généralisée dans la région et qu'ils sont prêts au dialogue. Les Soviétiques sont en train d'élaborer, paraît-il, un projet de solution. Plusieurs observateurs s'attendent à des résultats positifs de la rencontre de vendredi dernier entre le secrétaire général de l'ONU et le ministre irakien des Affaires étrangères.

Nous ne prétendons pas que le front de la paix est déjà constitué, mais tout indique que ses éléments existent et qu'il pourrait avoir la chance de l'emporter sur le front de la guerre. Faut-il rappeler le rôle des forces pacifistes pendant la guerre du Vietnam?

Pour qui travaille le temps? Est-ce pour les Irakiens ou pour les Américains avec leurs alliés respectifs? Nous souhaitons qu'il travaille avant tout pour la paix.



La crise du Golfe délie les langues, les plumes et les esprits. Le Jourdain, respectueux de tous les points de vue, publie cette semaine quelques unes des lettres qui lui sont parvenues en français.

M. Sabri Farah, ingénieur à Amman, nous a adressé ce texte en forme de petite annonce imaginative:

«A tous les dirigeants déçus ou menacés par leur peuple.

«Pour une poignée de dollars (juste quelques milliards), il vous est désormais possible de dompter vos peuples et d'accaparer leurs richesses.

«Dans les plus brefs délais, et n'importe où dans le monde, vous pouvez faire envoyer ce qui suit: -des forces navales comprenant des porte-avions, des cuirassés, des lance-missiles et plusieurs milliers de fusiliers marins; -des forces aériennes comprenant des avions de combat les plus modernes, des bombardiers, des avions spéciaux non détectables par les systèmes radar, des hélicoptères et des avions d'espionnage et de détection;

«des forces terrestres comprenant des forces blindées, des régiments d'artillerie, des lanceurs de missiles et des forces d'infanterie.

«En sus, nous pouvons offrir nos services dans des domaines divers. Entre autres: -obtenir en un temps record le nombre nécessaire de décisions des diverses organisations régionales ou mondiales pour soutenir le point de vue de nos clients;

«organiser une guerre médiatique et psychologique à travers les chaînes d'information que nous contrôlons; -organiser des opérations de sauvetage des otages ou des intérêts et les remettre sains et saufs (ou remettre leurs dépouilles, à Dieu ne plaise) à leurs proches; -organiser des opérations d'assassinat des dirigeants ou autres personnes-clés qui s'opposent aux desseins de nos clients;

«menacer d'employer, ou employer effectivement, des armes de destruction globale; -mettre en place des blocus bémériques qui empêchent même le lait de parvenir jusqu'aux nourrissons et les médicaments jusqu'aux malades;

«mettre sur orbite des satellites d'espionnage capables de compter le nombre de gallons sur l'épave d'un sous-marin.

«Pour tous renseignements et réservations, prière de contacter notre siège principal ou l'une de

nos agences, dont les adresses suivent:

Siège principal: Jérusalem, siège du gouvernement.

Agence américaine: Washington, maison blanche.

Agence britannique: Londres, 10 Downing street.

Agence européenne: Bonn, chancellerie.

«Remarques:

1- Nous avons le plaisir d'annoncer que nous allons très prochainement ouvrir des agences à Ankara et Tokyo, ainsi que dans plusieurs capitales arabes. En outre, nous avons l'espoir de pouvoir établir dans les plus brefs délais des agences à Moscou et à Pékin, ainsi qu'au siège même de l'ONU, à New York.

2- Toutes les informations seront traitées par nos services avec la plus entière confidentialité, et ne seront communiquées qu'aux services de renseignement des pays alliés et amis.»

Sabri Farah

M. Rachid Bontella, Algérien résidant à Amman depuis quatre ans est pilote de ligne. Il nous a adressé le texte suivant:

Permettez-moi de raconter brièvement la jolie fable de La Fontaine intitulée «Les animaux malades de la peste».

Au temps où les animaux parlaient, un mal étrange leur faisait la guerre. Pour les punir de leurs crimes, le ciel leur envoyait la peste qui fit des ravages parmi la faune existante.

Le lion, roi des animaux, tint conseil et indiqua à ses sujets qu'il fallait un sacrifice pour apaiser le courroux du ciel. Pour cela, il fit donc appel à la conscience de chacun pour avouer ses crimes et, partant, que le plus coupable paie. Le premier à se confesser, le lion, avoua qu'il mangeait d'innocentes brebis pour apaiser sa faim mais que, quelques fois, pour améliorer le menu, il se permettait des écarts et des dépassements et, ma foi, commettait la bavure

de dévorer le berger en passant. Il était prêt à payer de sa vie, dit-il.

Le renard, voulant assurer ses arrières, on ne sait jamais, fit l'éloge du lion assurant que ces sottises bestiales n'étaient bonnes qu'à manger. Et la foule d'applaudir... Virent ensuite le tigre, l'ours, le loup et d'autres animaux des plus féroces. Rien. Verdict, non coupables.

Intervention de l'âne, finalement, qui avoua bumblement qu'en passant dans un pré il faucha la largeur de sa langue en herbe. Une immense clameur s'éleva. «Voilà le coupable, c'est de lui que nous venions tous les maux de la Terre. A mort! Manger l'herbe d'autrui, quel crime abominable!»

Sauf le respect que j'éprouve pour lui, le président Saddam Hussein me rappelle tristement cette fable du XVIIIème siècle.

Tous les journaux du monde, toutes les télévisions, ne parlent que de lui. Et je reste sidéré devant ce déploiement insidieux et perfide de tant de bassesses, de coups bas, de parti-pris, devant ce matraquage systématique du cerveau des médias par des titres aussi ronflants que ridicules pour décrire M. Saddam Hussein. «Le boncher de Bagdad», «La face du diable», «Hitler» et j'en passe!

Où va-t-on comme ça, avec une mauvaise foi flagrante selon qu'il s'agit de blanchir ou ternir l'image de quelqu'un.

Dans l'édition du «Figaro» du 24 août 1990 intitulé «Toboggan», je relève: «La politique du fait accompli (l'annexion du Koweït) allait une nouvelle fois payer. N'avait-elle pas déjà permis à la Syrie de mettre la main sur le Liban? Pas un mot sur Israël également au Liban et en Palestine. Pas un mot sur les Turcs à Chypre. Et le Sahara occidental, c'est où?

Comme toujours dans le domaine politique on ne parle des Droits de l'Homme et du respect de la Charte des Nations Unies que lorsque cela arrange. Les dirigeants améri-



Ecole française

## Première rentrée dans les nouveaux locaux

En raison des circonstances, l'école française d'Amman a dû reporter la date de la rentrée des classes au 17 septembre prochain. Ce sera la première rentrée dans les nouveaux locaux spécialement conçus pour elle à Abdoun, qu'elle occupe déjà depuis le mois de janvier. Une occasion de retracer l'histoire de cette école, enfin « majeure », à l'âge de dix-huit ans.

Toute blanche, route neuve, dans ce quartier riche de la périphérie d'Amman qu'est Abdoun, l'école française est enfin chez elle. Son emplacement, ouvert sur un grand désert, son allure moderne et lumineuse et ses effectifs modestes répartis dans plus de 26 salles inspirent une sérénité studieuse.

Il n'en a pas toujours été ainsi. En 1972, lorsque quelques parents travaillant à l'ambassade de France décidèrent de fonder une association pour éduquer leurs enfants, l'école s'installa dans une pièce de l'appartement de l'un d'eux. A cette époque, les élèves ne sont que cinq, mais, très vite, les effectifs augmentent. Au-delà des enfants du personnel de l'ambassade, ceux des sociétés commerciales françaises travaillant en Jordanie viennent aussi s'y inscrire. A chaque fois, il faut déménager pour une villa un peu plus grande, rapidement aménagée en groupe scolaire de fortune. Le maximum des effectifs est atteint en 1985, lorsque l'entreprise de bâtiment et travaux publics Spie Batignolles construit à Aqaba les usines de phosphates. On installe même, à cette époque, une annexe de l'école dans le port jordanien.

Après l'achèvement de ces travaux, les effectifs retombent un peu, mais reprennent leur croissance de 1986 à 1990. Il devient alors de plus en plus évident que de vrais locaux, spécialement conçus pour l'enseignement, sont nécessaires. On met donc en chantier la nouvelle école, construite en un temps record, à partir de mars 1989. Dès janvier 1990, l'école quitte sa villa du centre-ville pour intégrer ses nouveaux locaux encore inachevés et, en avril, tous les travaux sont terminés. L'an dernier, 228 élèves ont suivi les cours de l'école française. Pas toujours de bout en bout en raison des dates de départ et d'arrivée en Jordanie des parents, qui ne coïncident pas toujours avec le calendrier scolaire.

### Effectifs idéaux

L'école française accueille les enfants de tous les niveaux et de tous les âges, de la maternelle à la terminale. Ainsi répartis, les enfants constituent des classes de 10 ou 15 élèves: un effectif idéal pour que l'enseignement soit efficace. « L'an dernier, explique Bernard Mahoux, le directeur de l'école, nous avions cinq élèves en terminale, préparant le baccalauréat. Ils étaient pratiquement en situation de cours particuliers, ce qui explique sans doute qu'ils aient tous passé l'examen avec succès. »

Reconnue par le ministère de l'éducation jordanien mais dépendant du ministère français, l'école dispense des cours strictement conformes aux programmes scolaires de l'hexagone. « Nous recevons régulièrement des inspecteurs de l'Education Nationale française qui veillent au bon respect des programmes », explique Bernard Mahoux. De plus les élèves du secondaire doivent rendre 12 ou 15 devoirs dans l'année pour chaque matière, dont un sur deux est corrigé en France par le Centre d'enseignement à distance. Concrètement, cela signifie un mini examen tous les



Les nouveaux locaux de l'école française inspirent une sérénité studieuse.

15 jours dans chaque matière. Beaucoup plus que ce qu'on exige dans la plupart des collèges et lycées de métropole. Pratiquement tous les enseignants sont des titulaires français, et les langues étrangères sont enseignées par des professeurs de nationalité correspondante: l'anglais par une Anglaise; l'espagnol par une Péruvienne. En plus des salles de cours traditionnelles, l'école dispose de laboratoires pour l'enseignement des sciences, d'une salle de sport, d'une salle de musique et d'une grande bibliothèque.

La moitié des élèves sont français, mais 18 nationalités différentes sont représentées dans l'autre moitié. Les Jordaniens aussi peuvent s'inscrire à l'école française, à condition de bénéficier d'une autorisation spéciale accordée par le ministère de l'Education Nationale jordanien. Un des attraits de l'école

française pour les étrangers est qu'elle prépare au baccalauréat. Un diplôme qui donne accès automatiquement aux universités françaises qui, contrairement à leurs équivalents anglais ou américains, sont quasiment gratuites.

Les circonstances actuelles ont incité le ministère des Affaires étrangères français à retarder l'arrivée des enseignants à Amman - et donc la rentrée - au 17 septembre. Dans quinze jours, donc, à huit heures du matin, les deux bus de ramassage de l'école amèneront les élèves à l'école pour le premier jour de classe.

Dès aujourd'hui, les inscriptions sont ouvertes. Il en coûte en moyenne 900 dinars par an pour une inscription en primaire et 1.200 dinars pour le secondaire.

Bonne inscription et... bonne rentrée!

Jean-Marc Bordes



L'école accueille des élèves de la maternelle à la terminale.

TGV

## Les Provençaux contre la grande vitesse

Difficile de marier ce fleuron de la technologie française qu'est le TGV, avec cet autre fleuron, du tourisme et de la qualité de vie, qu'est la Provence (au sud est de la France). Le mois d'août a été marqué par de nombreuses manifestations dans les villes et les villages de cette

En fait, le TGV orange, avec son nez effilé, va déjà jusqu'à Marseille, mais s'il roule à grande vitesse jusqu'à Lyon, il poursuit son trajet, au-delà, sur les voies traditionnelles qui ne lui permettent pas de dépasser la vitesse de 142 km/h, qui est celle des trains classiques.

C'est la raison pour laquelle la Société Nationale des Chemins de fer Français (SNCF) étudie depuis des mois le tracé d'une ligne spécialement conçue pour lui et lui permettant de rouler à 300, 320, voire 350 km/h sur ce trajet. Des études qui auraient dû rester secrètes mais qu'une fuite a placées sous les feux de l'actualité, déclenchant la colère des Provençaux.

Techniquement et économiquement, le projet est parfaitement au point. Il s'impose même comme une nécessité pour la SNCF, dont la ligne PLM (Paris-Lyon-Marseille), les trois plus grandes villes de France) est l'axe majeur depuis la fin du siècle dernier. Pas loin de 13 millions de voyageurs l'empruntent déjà chaque année et le chiffre pourrait monter à 24 millions avec la mise en place du TGV.

Acheminant les voyageurs de centre-ville à centre-ville, sans formalités d'enregistrement des bagages, le TGV deviendrait parfaitement concurrentiel comparé aux lignes aériennes intérieures qui sont déjà au bord de la saturation,

région: Avignon, Ragnonas, Barbentane... contre le tracé de cette nouvelle ligne qui devrait relier Marseille, Montpellier et Fréjus-Saint-Raphaël à Paris, en trois heures environ en 1997, contre cinq aujourd'hui.



Le TGV: les Provençaux n'en veulent pas sur leurs terres.

de même que les aéroports locaux. L'affaire est donc rentable à coup sûr, tout comme la ligne TGV Paris-Lyon, dont le trafic en 10 ans aura suffi à amortir le coût de son installation, ce qui en fait l'investissement collectif le plus rentable de ces trente dernières années.

Seulement voilà, les Provençaux rechignent et font barrage. Pour eux, le TGV n'offre aucun avantage et n'apporte que des nuisances. Par définition, en effet, le TGV ne dessert que les grandes gares sans s'arrêter dans les petites villes qu'il traverse. Pas question, donc, pour ceux qui travaillent à Paris, de prendre le TGV pour se rendre

dans leur mas isolé, loin de toute agglomération. Pas question non plus pour les Provençaux de souche de monter dans un TGV pour aller dans une ville voisine. Pour les uns comme pour les autres, le TGV n'apporte rien et on lui préfère le bon vieux omnibus, moins rapide mais tellement plus souple.

Ce qu'on reproche surtout au TGV c'est de dégrader la région. La nouvelle ligne devrait traverser une zone très peuplée, riche en vignes, en vergers et en cultures de primeurs. Pour bon nombre de ses habitants, elle signifie donc expropriation, morcellement, perte de ressources et dérangements. Le TGV est

trop bruyant (112 décibels) et rompt l'harmonie du paysage, parsemé qui plus est de vestiges traditionnels uniques en Europe. Aussi, tous ceux qui s'intéressent à la région (et notamment les nombreux Parisiens influents qui y ont une résidence d'été) sont montés au créneau, multipliant les manifestations et les tracts de protestation.

Le ministre des Transports, Michel Delebarre, a envoyé des émissaires pour tâcher de raisonner la population et trouver un terrain d'entente. Leur tâche sera difficile. Une nouvelle bataille du rail vient de s'engager.

JMB

## A L'AFFICHE

### FOCUS

Western

### Chasseur de scalps

Passons vite sur les dimensions formelles du film: il est facile de succomber à ses charmes. Nous retrouverons dans l'œuvre du réalisateur John Ford, *The Searchers* (La prisonnière du désert, 1956) - présentée jeudi 6 septembre au Centre américain - le paysage familier du Western classique ainsi que ses habitants tant appréciés: les Tuniques bleues, les Peaux-rouges, le cow-boy individualiste, les cabanes de colons disséminées dans les immenses contrées désertiques, les chevauchées d'allure épique. Passons vite aux problèmes du récit. Avec un recul de près d'un demi-siècle, demandons nous s'il est aussi bien réussi que nous le disent les critiques.

Un peu d'histoire: Entre Fort Apache (1948) et Cheyenne Autumn (1964), Ford tourne une série de westerns qui faisaient partie d'un révisionnisme général à Hollywood. En reprenant les chroniques du far-west, les cinéastes commencent à se poser des questions sur la mission civilisatrice de l'homme blanc, à considérer aux peuples indiens un certain respect de leurs droits et à reconnaître qu'ils leur avaient infligé beaucoup d'injustice.

Parmi les œuvres de Ford dans cette période, deux sont consacrées à un problème particulièrement épineux: les relations interraciales. *Two Rode Together* (1961), le portrait d'une femme blanche dite souillée par sa relation avec un Indien et *The Searchers*, quelques années auparavant, dépeignant un racisme virulent dont la haine pour les peuples indiens ne connaît pas de bornes.

Ce personnage s'appelle Ethan Edwards. A sa haine s'ajoutera très vite la rancune. A peine rentré au Texas de la guerre de Sécession, ce sudiste se trouve mêlé dans une guerre personnelle. La famille de son frère, chez qui il s'abrite, est anéantie par une bande hostile d'Indiens Comanches et sa jeune nièce, seule survivante, est enlevée. Après cinq ans de recherches, il la retrouve et la ramène au sein d'une des branches de la famille. Le nœud de la question est que son intention déclarée n'était pas de retrouver la petite fille mais d'avoir la peau du chef de la tribu, Ciacrice (Chief Scar). La petite, à ses yeux, était déjà sale. Accusée de félicité morale - bien qu'elle soit innocente - elle aussi doit mourir.

Limité à ce portrait sans compromis, on aurait pu s'attendre à un film puissant. D'après les chroniques, l'intolérance des blancs était réelle; la cohabitation d'un Indien et d'une femme blanche jugée répréhensible; ses conséquences cruelles. Cette intolérance sans pardon faisait de la femme fautive une âme condamnée. On attendait - c'était l'idéologie dominante - qu'elle se suicide plutôt que de s'exposer à un acte de violence ou qu'elle soit faite prisonnière et incluse dans la lignée familiale du chef de la tribu. Même sauvée par les Tuniques bleues, elle ne pouvait être qu'une paria.

Il est logique, dans cette époque quasi historique, que la haine d'un Ethan Edwards le mène à tuer sa nièce. Ce n'est cependant pas le cas. Ford nous propose une fin invraisemblable qui fait de *The Searchers* une œuvre gravement défectueuse. Ayant présenté un personnage raciste, tant par ses paroles que par ses actes, qui n'est même pas sensible aux liens du sang, il veut qu'on l'accepte finalement comme héros.

D'où vient cette contradiction qui gâche tout? La structure du film nous l'explique. Apparemment, Ford et son scénariste, Frank S. Nugent, étaient plus préoccupés de préserver un mythe que de faire face à la terrible vérité. *The Searchers* commence et finit par une ballade - véritable péan du cow-boy - louant cet être noble, sans feu ni lieu, qui, à un moment donné, sa mission achevée, doit finalement repartir. Bien qu'il ait tant de sang sur les mains, il reste pur. Cette idéologie est tout à fait niée par les images et le contenu du film. Il révèle un révisionnisme manqué. Pour Ford, une seule solution: affecter un revirement de son personnage. Au dernier moment, sans explication, Edwards décide de se démarquer de ses préjugés et d'embrasser la nièce.

La vraie solution est celle d'Alain Le May, auteur du roman: Ciacrice mort, Edwards est abattu par la main d'une femme Comanche. La seule justice.

Samir Kamal

### EXPOSITIONS

Peinture. Une artiste contemporaine présente ses tableaux au Centre Culturel Français. Peintre des signes, des traces, des mémoires, son langage pictural fait revivre les langages de civilisations disparues. Ni abstraite ni figurative, mais «matérialiste», Yo Marchand sculpte sa peinture autant qu'elle la peint. Ses œuvres appellent autant le toucher que le regard, comme une écriture Braille venue des temps les plus anciens pour les aveugles que nous sommes. Centre Culturel Français, à partir de jeudi 6 septembre et jusqu'à la fin du mois.

Environnement. Exposition de posters sur les mesures de protection de l'environnement dans tous ses secteurs: air, terre et eau. British Council, jusqu'au 15 septembre.

### Mots croisés

par Florence Mouton

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										

#### Horizontalement.

1: fredaines. 2: cuire; confort. 3: au bout des pieds. 4: dans la vessie; religieux. 5: pierres encastrées; brème. 6: donne la mort; ancienne Saïda. 7: vieilles colères; annonce. 8: couche. 9: avant approuvé; se jeter. 10: dans la fleur.

#### Verticalement.

A: craque sous la dent. B: abomination; note. C: séduites. D: refusent; virage de ski. E: rangées. F: hypothèse; département français. G: fait voler les Américains; dit. H: négation; décevait. I: spécialité; sacré. J: plantée; épreuve.

### Solution des mots croisés

#### Horizontalement.

1: chantonnes. 2: rôti; ass. 3: orléans. 4: urine; abbé. 5: serres; réc. 6: Sidon. 7: tres; édit. 8: strate. 9: lu; items. 10: étiennes.

#### Verticalement.

A: croustille. B: horreur; vt. C: attirées. D: ment; stem. E: trides. F: si. Ain. G: Nasa; dette. H: ni; brodées. I: es; bœni. J: semée; test.

### CINEMA

Le mois cinématographique au Centre culturel américain est placé sous le signe de John Ford. Trois de ses films seront projetés - en anglais - plusieurs fois jusqu'au 27 septembre:

**"The Searchers"**. L'histoire d'Ethan Edwards, à la recherche obsessionnelle de sa nièce, kidnappée par les Indiens. Dans la célèbre scène du début du film, une famille regarde le héros (John Wayne) émerger seul du désert. Le film a été tourné dans de nombreux sites des Etats-Unis, en toutes saisons. Voir FOCUS.

Centre américain, les jeudi 6 et dimanche 9 à 19h00.

**"The Quiet Man"**. L'hommage de John Ford à l'Irlande, à sa pauvreté et à sa fierté, que ses parents lui avaient appris à aimer. Le film montre un village de Galway à travers les yeux d'un ex-boxeur américain, revenu dans son pays natal à la recherche d'une épouse. Le résultat est amusant, émouvant et chaleureux.

Centre américain, les jeudi 13 et dimanche 16 septembre à 19h00.

**"The man who shot Liberty Valance"**. Un jeune avocat idéaliste (James Stewart) affronte un truand (Lee Marvin) dans la ville de Shinnbone. Ce film est une évocation par John Ford des changements de l'Ouest. Vers la fin des années 1870 les villes comme Shinnbone se développent rapidement, au fil des arrivées de pionniers, d'avocats, d'hommes politiques, de journalistes répondant à l'appel d'Horace Greeley: «Partez vers l'Ouest, jeunes hommes!». C'était la fin de l'ère du cow-boy solitaire.

Centre américain, les jeudi 20 et dimanche 23 septembre à 19h00.

Ciné-club. Séance quotidienne à 20h00. Projection supplémentaire pour les jeunes, le jeudi à 16h00.

Films en version originale. Route de l'université, première à droite après l'hôtel Jérusalem puis première à gauche. Le ciné-club se trouve à environ 300 m., sur la gauche de la route.

### DIMANCHE

17h45 - Denver, le dernier dinosaure. Dessin animé.  
18h10 - La montagne Hunza. Documentaire sur un village dans les montagnes du Pakistan.  
18h30 - Ca c'est du cinéma.  
19h00 - Le Journal.  
19h15 - Carnet de notes. Extraits de musique classique.

### LUNDI

18h05 - La dame de Canton. Documentaire sur le voyage de navigateurs amateurs dans l'Océan Indien.  
19h00 - Le Journal.  
19h15 - Magazine sportif hebdomadaire.

### MARDI

18h15 - Dix chiens pour un rêve. Documentaire. Un jeune homme réalise son rêve: traverser la Sibérie sur un train-train à vapeur.  
18h30 - Des chiffres et des lettres.  
19h00 - Le Journal.  
19h15 - Aujourd'hui en Jordanie: magazine local réalisé et présenté par Saleh Madi.

### MERCREDI

18h09 - SOS disparus. Série. Un aveugle perd soudain la trace de sa mystérieuse compagne.  
19h00 - Le Journal.  
19h15 - Sélection de musique classique.

### JEUDI

18h10 - "Molierissimo" (20): dessin animé.  
18h40 - Des Chiffres et des Lettres.  
19h00 - Le Journal.  
19h15 - Documentaires sur l'Allemagne et l'Egypte.

### VENREDI

17h25 - "Trois milliards sans ascenseur". Film. Deux gangs s'affrontent pour s'emparer de trois milliards en bijoux. Legnel y parviendra-t-il?  
19h00 - Le Journal.  
19h15 - Les révolutions de l'intelligence. Série documentaire sur l'histoire de la science. Aujourd'hui: portrait d'un robot.

### SAMEDI

18h10 - Images et réalités. Documentaire sur le sens de la vie. Aujourd'hui: comment il aide les êtres humains à se souvenir et à identifier des objets du passé.  
19h00 - Le Journal.  
19h15 - Contact. Magazine.

## JEUX

### LE SAVIEZ-VOUS ?

**FAMILLE.** Quatre cents membres d'une même famille de sud-ouest de la France, les Soulié, se sont réunis récemment sous un chapiteau dans le village de Quins, à 25 km au sud de Rodez, autour d'un tableau de 17 mètres de long qui retrace l'arbre généalogique de la famille depuis 1657. L'arbre a nécessité cinq mois de travail et l'utilisation de 27 panneaux de papier quadrillé.

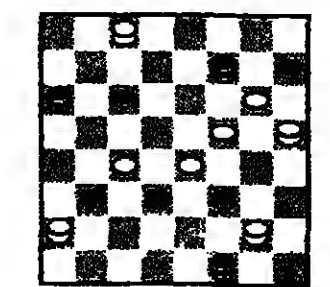
**IVOIRE.** Un chargement de 86 défenses d'éléphants d'une valeur de 400.000 dollars a été découvert dans l'épave d'un bateau qui avait sombré au siècle dernier dans la Manche, au large des côtes du Devon, en Angleterre. Le navire, qui venait d'Afrique, avait coulé en 1878 à la suite d'une collision. Les défenses qu'il contient (une tonne d'ivoire) pourraient bien être le seul stock disponible sur le marché mondial du fait de l'interdiction internationale de vendre cette matière recherchée.

**INVASION.** L'invasion de touristes en Tchécoslovaquie et l'ouverture des frontières vers l'ouest a entraîné une pénurie d'hôtels particulièrement marquée à Prague. Près de 17,5 millions d'étrangers ont visité ce pays aux multiples richesses touristiques au cours des six premiers mois de l'année. 13 millions venaient des autres pays de l'est, soit deux fois plus que pour toute l'année dernière. 4,5 millions sont venus des pays occidentaux, le quintuple de l'an dernier.

### DAMES

Problème N. 26.

Les blancs gagnent en sept coups.



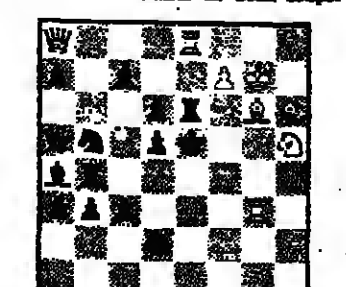
Solution du problème N. 25:

B. 12-7; N. 31-24; B. 23-19; N. 4-11; B. 15-13; N. 18-9; B. 19-26; N. 30-21; B. 1-19; N. 24-22; B. 17-19.

### ECHECS

Problème N. 26.

Mat avec les blancs en deux coups.



Solution du problème N. 25:

Cc5-e4.



## World's airlines agree to increase passenger fares

GENEVA (R) — The world's major airlines agreed Saturday to raise passenger fares from five to eight per cent to offset increased fuel costs and insurance premiums due to the Gulf crisis.

The International Airline Transport Association (IATA) in a statement issued at the end of a three-day meeting said the increases would be applied after Oct. 1.

The airlines would have to seek approval from their governments, the statement added.

It said cargo rates would go up by seven per cent, also subject to government approval.

Officials from about 90 airlines attended the meeting, which had been requested by member airlines.

The brief statement did not indicate whether the proposed fare increases would vary between regions.

"Airlines attending a worldwide passenger fares and cargo rates conference in Geneva, Aug. 29-31, have decided to seek government approvals for increased international fares and rates to partially recover recent extraordinary cost rises," it said.

"The airlines will file surcharges on international fares generally falling into the range of five to eight per cent, for application on or after Oct. 1, subject to government approvals," the statement added.

"Carriers will file for an international rate increase which will be effective on or after Oct. 1, subject to government approvals," it concluded.

The meeting was held behind closed doors and an airline official was immediately available for comment.

Fuel bills make up about 15 per cent of airline operating costs.

Spot market prices for jet kerosene fuel have risen by 35 per cent in line with a general increase in crude oil prices due to the U.N. trade embargo to punish Iraq, a major producer, for its takeover of Kuwait, also a large producer.

Some U.S. airlines have announced plans to raise fares by between five and 10 per cent but have postponed the increases because of slack domestic demand.

## Argentina tightens austerity plan with massive price hikes

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — The government sharply hiked utility rates Friday and reiterated it would fire thousands of public employees in an effort to reduce the fiscal deficit and stimulate an economy in deep recession.

Economy Minister Antonio Gonzalez said many public employees under contract would be laid off beginning in September, and civil servants would be forced to retire early. He stated no figure, but analysts said the total would reach at least 80,000 of a public workforce of three million.

Some of the Gonzalez measures were announced before, but not carried out. The 80,000 employees were to have been retired or laid off by last April.

Earlier Friday, Gonzalez swore in new directors for the state electricity, gas and water companies. The previous directors were forced to resign for not complying with orders to reduce staff and expenses.

Among other major developments, gas for cars was hiked by 35 per cent beginning Saturday, Gonzalez said, and other public service rates will increase by an average 12 to 15 per cent, or about the rate of inflation projected for August.

Gonzalez also announced his ministry will oversee the 13 biggest state companies that until now reported to the public works ministry, and the major factories that until now were part of the defence ministry.

The state airline, railroad, telephone and other companies must pay their debts from their revenue and budgets, he said, because the central bank no longer will fund their deficits.

The central bank also will require all banks that owe it money to clear up their accounts. Those that cannot will be forced out of business, he said.

"Argentina is undertaking a profound transformation of the public sector," Gonzalez said in a 19-minute address to the nation on state-run radio and TV. The goal "is a state that is austere and efficient... (and capable) of all the tasks of a modern state."

The measures were imposed by decree.

Hours earlier, President Carlos Menem asked his countrymen to have patience with his 13-month-old government that took office amid hyperinflation and recession.

Menem's solution has been to reduce the role of the state in the economy, and stimulate private enterprise.

"We're looking from the national government to restructure the state, to do serious surgery on the state, and for that sacrifice and understanding are needed," he told reporters. "The party is over."

The Menem government removed controls on prices and foreign exchange, linked public service rates and their costs, reduced import tariffs and export taxes, cut the 1990 budget by \$4 billion, encouraged foreign investment and partially deregulated the oil industry.

The government also has proposed tax reform and the reorganisation of the central bank to make it more independent.

Results so far: The monthly cost of living was throttled to near single digits in July from a rate of 197 per cent 12 months earlier. The exchange rate has held steady for six months. The fiscal deficit narrowed.

## Indonesia wants lower oil stocks to cut prices

JAKARTA (R) — Oil prices could jump to \$40 a barrel unless industrial countries release some of their stocks, Indonesia's Mines and Energy Minister Gijaning Kartasasmita said Saturday.

"Oil stocks in industrial countries must be released now to press prices down," he told reporters. "If not, oil prices could reach up to \$40 a barrel by the fourth quarter."

The price Friday for internationally traded Drent crude for October shipment was \$26.50 a barrel.

Gijaning was speaking after returning from Vienna where a majority of OPEC ministers had agreed to increase output to make up for the estimated four million barrels per day (b/d) lost to the world market since Iraq invaded Kuwait a month ago.

He said demand for OPEC oil was estimated at 24.6 million b/d in the fourth quarter but gave no figure for stocks in consumer countries.

"At present that would be very difficult for OPEC alone to fill so we expect industrial countries to release their stocks," he noted.

Iraq, who rejected the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), insisted on linking any rise in OPEC output to a drop in stockpiles in consumer countries.

## World Bank ready to help nations hard hit by Gulf crisis

WASHINGTON (R) — The World Bank stood ready to help developing countries hit by the Gulf crisis but was opposed to hasty handouts by wealthy nations that ignored long-term economic goals, its president said.

"We have money in reserves," President Barber Conable told Reuters in an interview. "We can accommodate... additional demands."

But he warned rich nations against indiscriminately doling out emergency aid without taking account of the need for economic reforms in developing countries.

Such handouts could sap the resolve of Third World leaders to take the tough political decisions necessary to shape up their economies, Conable said.

"We should coordinate... contributions... in ways that will not undercut our (reform) programmes," he said.

U.S. President George Bush has called on allies to help fund U.S. forces in the Gulf and support countries suffering from the effects of international economic embargo against Iraq. Among the nations he cited were Turkey, Egypt, Jordan and the states in Eastern Europe.

A World Bank contribution could come in the form of more loans, not outright grants or concessional or low cost finance. That would come from wealthy nations.

Conable said the bank had already started to review its lending programmes to see which nations might need more money to cope with the economic fallout from Iraq's invasion.

Although the overall impact of the takeover on the world economy might be relatively modest, some poorer countries appeared to be in for a tough time, Conable said.

Developing nations would be hit in a variety of ways by the economic fallout from the Gulf crisis, he said.

The steep rise in oil prices would hurt those dependent on imported oil, such as Brazil and Eastern Europe.

The economic sanctions against Iraq would hit others, such as Egypt, which has lost remittances from Egyptian workers in Iraq and Kuwait, and Turkey, which is suffering from cutting off the flow of Iraqi oil through a pipeline.

And many would be hurt if the crisis led to slower economic growth in industrial countries.

"As the old saying goes, when the industrial world gets a cold, the developing world gets pneumonia," Conable said.

## Mideast tension heightens volatility of shipping market

OSLO, Norway (AP) — The Gulf crisis has not been kind to the shipping industry, whose stocks have tumbled on fears tankers will be idled as insurance companies impose war-zone premiums and sailors demand hazardous duty pay.

Analysts in world shipping capitals say the market, complex and highly sensitive at best, is in some cases nearing panic.

"We can't predict anything," said Michael Kokkinis, president of the Greek Shippers' Association. "Everyone is in a state of alert, both those who are buying and those who are selling ships. People are waiting."

Stock market shipping indexes have slumped about 25 per cent worldwide since Iraq invaded Kuwait Aug. 2, said a spokesman for Lloyd's List International in London.

The spokesman, who asked not to be named, said Norwegian and U.S. shipping companies have been hit hardest. An Oslo business newspaper reported that some Norwegians saw their shipping fortunes halved on paper within two weeks of the takeover.

Loukas Hadjiannan, the Greek owner of the world's largest independent tanker fleet, said 30 per cent of all tankers could be laid up by the crisis.

"The main thing that this crisis has done is once again stress the volatility of the shipping market," said David Glass, editor of Nafiki, a shipping magazine in Piraeus, Greece.

London experts said 60 ships, mostly tankers, were awaiting orders near the Gulf late last week. But they said there was some increase in chartering, where ships are hired for specific voyages.

Compounding a decline in tanker activity are increasing costs for shipping companies because of the dangers caused by the crisis.

Crews want cash bonuses for sailing in the Gulf. Greek shipowners and the Panhellenic Seamen's Federation have agreed to define the Gulf as a danger zone.

Insurance costs have increased as much as tenfold, though more often by three times, for ships in high-risk Gulf areas, according to Norwegian reports.

Jane Vider of Lloyd's Insurance in London said war insurance rates for ships have been raised three times since Aug. 2. But the highest premiums are still just one-tenth of the 7.5 per cent of a ship's value some owners paid during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war.

"The current situation in the Middle East has led to natural fears and a good deal of short-term inability to act," said Jarle Hammer, an analyst with Fearnlet A.S. in Oslo. "Some are clearly on the verge of panic, panic built on uncertainty."

Anxiety has pushed the paper value of Norwegian ships down by \$1.3 billion, or 19 per cent, since Aug. 1, according to Oslo's stock exchange. Mark Jenkins, senior consultant at Lloyd's Maritime Information Service, said losses reflect the jittery tone of the world stock market.

"If this crisis goes on we'll be in trouble," Glass said. "Because the developed nations will enter a recession and they will have a smaller demand for oil."

The shipping industry expects some relief as other nations, including some members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, are expected to replenish up to 90 per cent of the four million barrels of Iraqi and Kuwait crude lost to the market.

Also, some tankers have won longer contracts to sail farther for alternative oil cargoes because Turkey closed an overland pipeline from Iraq.

Uncertain oil supplies could also increase demand for coal cargoes from stable suppliers such as the United States and Australia.

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## Gorbachev promises stability in 6 months

MOSCOW (AP) — President Mikhail Gorbachev, faced with citizens furious over shortages of everything from refrigerators to cigarettes, said Friday the government will try to stabilise the Soviet economy in the next six months.

Speaking to reporters after a two-day session of government advisory bodies, Gorbachev said officials believe the country should settle on one blueprint for major economic reform. There are at least four in the works, with widely different prescriptions for curing an economy that suffers from chronic shortages and hidden inflation.

"We must come out with one programme, he told a news conference. "If we lose two or three months, we'll have to reject a lot, and it will affect things in such a way that we will have to make corrections not only in tactics but strategy."

In an indication of the urgency he attaches to fixing the country's economic woes, Gorbachev said he will "cut my foreign trips to the limit." He is slated to visit France in the fall but appeared to rule out another trip he had been expected to make, to Spain.

The four commissions, including a group supervised by Gorbachev and Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin, have been working on proposals to move the Soviet economy from a centrally planned command system to one driven primarily by market forces.

The groups went to work after the national legislature, the Supreme Soviet, rejected Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov's blueprint for a "transition to a regulated market economy" on June 13. The Supreme Soviet reconvenes Sept. 10 to take up the latest proposals, which Gorbachev said would not be ready for another week. The original deadline was Saturday.

Gorbachev told reporters "serious measures" would be taken in the next six months to cut off Soviet's ability to accumulate "hot money," the term for income derived from black marketeering and from undeserved salary raises.

The Soviet Union suffers from

## S. Korea reports recovery

SEOUL (AP) — South Korea's gross national product (GNP) grew 9.9 per cent in the first half of the year, up from a 6.8 per cent rate for the corresponding period last year, the Bank of Korea has reported.

Central bank officials said growth was powered by a booming domestic construction industry and strong consumer spending.

They did not predict this year's annual growth rate, but before the Gulf crisis, government economists had projected eight per cent to nine per cent growth for the year.

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## THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL THE BRITISH CURRICULUM SCHOOL IN AMMAN Is now open for registrations for the September Term 1990

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**PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH REQUIRED:** None

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**NATIONALITIES ACCEPTED:** All

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**ENQUIRIES:** The School is presently accepting registrations for the September term. The school will also be open for registrations everyday in July and August between the hours of 9.00 and 12.00 noon. The new term begins on Sunday 9th September.

P.O. Box 2002  
Tel: 841070

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday, September 1, 1990  
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	124.5	125.2
U.S. dollar	658.0	662.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	371.8	461.5
Pound Sterling	1244.3	1251.8	Dutch guilder	370.3	372.5
Deutsche mark	417.4	419.9	Swedish crown	113.7	114.4
Swiss franc	502.8	505.8	Italian lira (for 100)	36.3	36.6
			Belgian franc (for 10)	203.3	204.5

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**Nabla Obeld — Salah Qabeel**  
In  
**THE DANCER AND THE POLITICIAN**  
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## Vietnam praises U.N. powers over Cambodian peace efforts

HANOI (R) — Vietnam Saturday praised the five major U.N. powers for trying to help the Cambodian war, but stopped short of urging the Phnom Penh government to accept a new U.N. Security Council peace package.

Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach told reporters: "We consider the efforts of the five powers to be on the right track. Now it remains an internal matter for the Cambodian people. Vietnam will support the decision of the Cambodian people."

Vietnamese Prime Minister Do Muoi stressed Vietnam's support for Cambodia in a speech Saturday marking the 45th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

The official Cambodian News Agency SPK reported from Phnom Penh Friday that Hor Nam Hong, who handles foreign affairs for the government, said he saw the U.N. plan as a talking point to be discussed in Jakarta soon by all the Cambodian factions.

The five permanent members

of the U.N. Security Council, Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States, agreed Tuesday on a plan providing for a major U.N. role in supervising disarmament of the warring factions and helping run an interim government in Cambodia until elections are held.

Vietnam backs the Phnom Penh government, while China arms the Khmer Rouge, the strongest of three guerrilla groups trying to overthrow Phnom Penh. The United States and other Western countries have backed two smaller guerrilla groups.

In January 1979 Vietnamese troops toppled a Khmer Rouge government that was responsible for the deaths of more than one million Cambodians during its four-year rule.

Western diplomats say Vietnam is playing a delicate balancing act, eager to cooperate with other countries in the peace process, but unwilling to abandon its Cambodian ally.

One diplomat said the foreign minister's statement was the

strongest official Vietnamese pronouncement so far in support of the big five's efforts.

"It's definitely a step forward," he said.

The prime minister, in an apparent reference to the U.N. plan, said in his speech that Vietnam supported constructive initiatives of other countries and international organizations to settle the conflict.

Speaking in the National Assembly building in front of a bust of Ho Chi Minh, the founder of the republic, Muoi told an audience of more than 1,000 people, including top government officials, military men and foreign diplomats, that Vietnam wanted to normalise relations with the United States and China.

He said serious mistakes had been made in the last few years in Vietnam's efforts to move from a centrally planned to a market-oriented economy.

In the 45-minute speech, he said Vietnam had to overcome urgent problems including corruption, smuggling, tax evasion,

embezzlement, and a sluggish bureaucracy if its economic reforms were to work. He said continued dependence on state subsidies would not be permitted.

Vietnam's gross domestic product increased by 80 per cent between 1976 and 1989, Muoi said. National income rose by 52.9 per cent, export volume by 717.2 per cent and the value of industrial output by 102.5 per cent and the value of agricultural output by 62.8 per cent.

He said food production reached 21.44 million tons in 1989, an increase of 7.95 million since 1976.

But Muoi said Vietnam still faced extreme difficulties.

"Hostile forces are carrying out many sabotage activities against our efforts to build and defend our country," he said. "We are building a state of the people, by the people and for the people," he said, but added that the country must not divert from the path to socialism and must strengthen the leadership role of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

## Sri Lanka imposes curfew on 3 districts

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) —

The government Saturday imposed an indefinite curfew on three Tamil districts in northern Sri Lanka to enable troops to conduct operations against Tamil guerrillas, military officials said.

The curfew took effect at 6 a.m. (0030 GMT) in Vavuniya, Mullaitivu and Mannar, and was announced over state-run radio.

A curfew also was imposed in Kilinochchi, a northern town.

The officials, who cannot be identified under briefing rules, gave no details of the planned military operations.

Sri Lankan forces control the towns in the districts, but the countryside is under the control of the Tamil Tiger rebels fighting a 7-year-old war for independence.

Four soldiers, six Tamil rebels and two civilians were killed Friday in the north and east of this Indian Ocean island off India's southern coast, officials said.

The Sri Lankan army was stalled at Mandaitivu on the 11th day of an offensive to end a rebel siege of the 23-man army garrison in Jaffna Fort. The fort on the edge of Jaffna City is linked to the island by a heavily mined causeway which the troops have failed to cross. It has been cut off for 10 weeks.

The six rebels were killed when troops opened fire at the guerrillas, who had torched two mosques and some Muslim homes at Palanunai village in the eastern Batticaloa district Friday, the officials said.

The two civilians, a Muslim and a Tamil woman, were killed by Tamil rebels in two separate attacks in the east, the officials added.

## Liberian rebels accused of killing 200 foreigners

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone (AP) — The Ghana News Agency has reported that Liberian rebels opposed to the introduction of a West African peacekeeping force have killed 200 foreigners from the five countries who make up the force.

A Ghana News Agency correspondent with the five-nation force, which includes Ghana, said the rebels loyal to Charles Taylor began attacking the civilians shortly after the force arrived last weekend. Taylor had opposed any intervention in the eight-month-old tribal war, saying the introduction of the West African force was an attempt to keep President Samuel Doe in power.

The force fought its way to the eastern edge of the Liberian capital of Monrovia and took control of the city's airport, diplomatic sources here said.

Control of the air strip, which is big enough to handle some military transport planes, would make resupply of the force easier.

About 3,000 soldiers from Ghana, Nigeria, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia arrived in Monrovia on Aug. 25 on ships with orders to end the eight-month tribal war in Liberia.

The Spriggs Payne Airfield had been in the hands of Doe's troops but was under fire almost daily from Taylor's rebels, camped less than a kilometre away.

The force was pushing east-

ward towards the embassies of three of its member states, Guinea, Ghana and Nigeria, which were just behind rebel lines. The rebels had rounded up thousands of nationals from the three countries who had taken refuge at their embassies, saying they were being held for their own protection.

There was no response from Taylor to the Ghana News Agency report. The rebel leader confirmed Thursday that he was holding several thousand foreign nationals.

The Ghana News Agency quoted Ghanaians who had escaped the attack, and said thousands more were waiting outside Monrovia's port for a ship that would take them home.

Kwasi Kwate, 36, a Ghanaian teacher, said rebels attacked a community of 2,500 Ghanaians living in Barnesville, about six kilometres from Monrovia's port.

Kwaku Egyir, 52, a Ghanaian who has lived in Liberia since 1963, said Taylor's men were looking for Ghanaians and Nigerians in particular because they believed Ghanaians and Nigerians were members of the African force had inflicted many casualties on the rebels.

Egyir said the rebels were able to identify the Ghanaians and Nigerians by their accents and tribal scars.

## Kaunda condemns Buthelezi for South African violence

LUSAKA (R) — Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda Saturday strongly condemned supporters of Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi for their part in factional fighting among blacks in South Africa.

"The wanton destruction of life by supporters of chief Buthelezi is not acceptable," Kaunda told a one-day summit of the seven-nation front-line states.

Kaunda, who is chairman of the front-line group, blamed Buthelezi's fanatical Freedom Movement for the fighting be-

tween its forces and those of the African National Congress (ANC).

About 500 people have been killed in the violence in two weeks.

Kaunda, who met Buthelezi earlier this year, said the Zulu leader must stop the violence and work for political recognition through constructive work.

"Recognition for him will come as a result of his good deeds and not killing people," the Zambian leader said.

## Taiwan premier proposes '1 China, 2 regions' formula

TAIPEI (AP) — Premier Hau Pei-Tsun Saturday proposed a "one country, two regions" formula in another attempt to solve differences between Taiwan and the rival Communist government in China.

Hau said the formula would respect the differing political systems of China and Taiwan, which has been governed by the Nationalists since they lost a civil war on the Chinese mainland in 1949.

Hau said the Nationalists would enact laws based on the new formula to govern trade, cultural and other civilian exchanges between Taiwan and China. Such exchanges have increased recently.

Officials said one main area to

be covered would be the repatriation of an increasing number of mainland Chinese who have entered Taiwan illegally to seek a better life. At present there are no laws covering them.

More than 10,000 mainlanders have entered Taiwan illegally since 1987, when the Nationalists relaxed private contacts between Taiwanese and Chinese.

The Nationalists, who maintain they are China's legitimate leaders, continue to reject any official contacts with the Chinese government.

In the past, both sides have offered other formulas to solve their differences, but each solution has been rejected by the other.

China proposed a "one coun-

try, two systems" formula, but this was rejected by the Nationalists who said it would have reduced them to the status of a local government.

In turn, the Nationalists proposed a "one country, two governments" formula, but this was rejected by Peking which said it would have created two Chinas.

Hau proposed the latest formula in a written report to the lawmaking legislative Yuan, which would have to approve the changes. There was no immediate indication of whether the proposal would be accepted.

Legislator Huang Chu-Wei, a member of the governing Nationalist Party, said Hau's proposal was an attempt to resolve the dispute over sovereignty.

## Soviets design new space shuttle

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Soviet Union has designed a new space shuttle to go into orbit in 1996 and replace the Buran which has been idle since its maiden flight nearly two years ago.

Pravda said Saturday.

The Communist Party daily said the new shuttle, called Molniya, would have a booster rocket with a carrying capacity twice that of the existing Soyuz rocket.

G. Lozino-Lozinsky, head of the association that designed Molniya, said the new space complex would be more efficient and economical than Buran and be equipped with more reusable parts.

"In each lift-off, the new space system will preserve for us a complicated and costly electronic control system," he said.

"It will also preserve the engine itself, which in contrast to Buran will be attached to the spacecraft," he told Pravda.

He did not indicate how much the programme would cost.

Buran, which has not flown since its maiden flight in November 1988, has been criticised by parliamentarians and the public as being particularly wasteful at a time when the country is undergoing a deep economic crisis.

Moscow's troubled 17-day Soviet space mission is expected to show a 13-million-ruble (\$21 million) profit, the first in the 33-year-history of the Soviet space programme, the deputy mission chief said Friday.

"From a programme of scientific investigation it is being turned into a programme for economic benefit," Viktor Blagov told a news conference.

During the mission two cosmonauts made an emergency spacewalk to repair their damaged spacecraft, but they insisted Friday they never risked running out of oxygen.

## After 11 years, child rights convention comes into force

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — An international convention comes into force this weekend that can help authorities fight child abuse, neglect, sexual exploitation and other violations of children's rights, U.N. officials have announced.

The Global Convention on the Rights of the Child takes effect Sunday, 30 days after the 20th national ratification.

By Sunday, said U.N. officials, 29 states will have ratified the convention and two will have acceded to it. It will become binding upon them.

Another 105 nations, including all of Europe and the Soviet Union, have signed it, indicating their intention to ratify it. The convention is not binding upon the United States but signed it.

The General Assembly unanimously adopted the convention last December.

The Convention on the Rights

of the Child wraps together all international laws concerning the rights of minors, which were scattered among more than 80 treaties and declaration drafted over the last 60 years.

The convention has engendered controversy, however. It allows anyone 15 or older to be drafted into military service.

More than 95,000 child soldiers lost their lives in the Gulf war, and over 200,000 15-to-17-year-olds are serving in various armed forces worldwide today.

Norway, Sweden, France, West Germany, Italy, Spain, Australia, Canada, Mexico and other nations wanted the draft age raised to at least 17, and the Soviet Union was willing to agree with that standard.

The United States, however, held out for keeping the draft age at 15, on the grounds that the 1949 Geneva Conventions on warfare and their 1977 additional protocols specify that age, and

the new convention should conform to that international agreement.

The convention sets the end of childhood at age 18, but does not say whether childhood begins at birth or at some point earlier, a controversy dividing anti-abortion and pro-choice advocates.

The convention deliberately glosses over abortion by stating only in the non-binding preamble that children deserve special protection "before as well as after birth."

The legally binding text contains no such reference to when childhood begins.

Recognition of children as individuals with inalienable rights began under international law in 1924, when the League of Nations adopted the Geneva declaration on children's rights, abolishing the common custom of treating children as the property of their father.

## Gaviria: Drug lords realised violence did not pay

BOGOTA (R) — Colombia's powerful cocaine cartels declared a truce in the year-old drug war with the government because they realised violence would not bring results, President Cesar Gaviria said Friday.

In an interview with Reuters and the international television news agency Visnews, Gaviria, who took office three weeks ago, denied the drug barons' month-old truce was a result of secret talks with the government as some opposition newspapers have hinted.

"I have a policy of not having any kind of negotiation (with the drug-traffickers). We have not changed any policy."

"They know terrorism is a bad way to get any result and they will not gain any concession from this government by terrorism. I think that's the reason why they have abandoned terrorism," he said, referring to the drug barons.

He said he was confident Colombia would finally defeat the cartels, which supply about 80 per cent of cocaine consumed in the United States.

"Of course we will defeat the drug cartels. We are awaiting some help from the international community to be much more effective. But of course we will do that," he said.

The drug traffickers are suspected of killing hundreds of people in a wave of bombings and shootings after Gaviria's predecessor Virgilio Barco declared an all-out anti-drug offensive in August 1989. But violence has dropped sharply since the traffickers

declared a unilateral truce in July.

Gaviria, a 43-year-old economist, said the cocaine cartels had been greatly weakened by the offensive.

"Colombian society has lost many lives and we have put in many resources, but they (the traffickers) have lost many things too," Gaviria said, speaking in his elegant office in the presidential palace.

However, he said he could not be sure that the violence of the drug war was over.

He said the arrest of fugitive drug boss Pablo Escobar had always been a priority for the government but he could not say his capture was imminent. A decision on whether to extradite Escobar could be taken only after his capture, he said.

Asked how he would react if the drug barons repeated an offer made earlier this year to surrender, Gaviria said an unconditional surrender offer would be good news for Colombia and for humanity.

He said Colombians were very disappointed with the verdict in the drug trial of Washington Mayor Marion Barry.

"We have (lost) so many lives of judges, policemen, presidential candidates, members of the Supreme Court and we don't see that the judicial system in the United States is working in the same way we are working," he said.

Barry was found guilty this month of one count of cocaine possession and innocent of a simi-

lar charge. The judge declared a mistrial after 12 other charges after the jury failed to reach a decision.

Meanwhile a report by the Colombian secret police published Friday said terrorist attacks and murders have decreased sharply in recent weeks.

The report said there were 321 murders in Colombia during August, compared to 678 in June, according to El Tiempo, the country's leading newspaper.

The murders included street killings and domestic brawls, although in the past Colombia's high murder rate has been attributed to leftist guerrillas, right-wing death squads and drug traffickers.

There were 21 terrorist attacks in August, down from 94 in March, the report said.

Officials attributed the decline in violence to a government crackdown on drug trafficking and the continuing peace talks with rebel groups.

"In Colombia, there is a new climate of peace," Defence Minister Oscar Botero told reporters earlier this week.

The report was presented to Gaviria's administration by the Department of Administrative Security, Colombia's secret police, El Tiempo said.

In a separate development, a Spanish judge has frozen three bank accounts containing more than \$1 million deposited by a Colombian drug trafficker, the authoritative El Pais daily reported Friday.

Santander, had been opened under a false name by the late Gustavo Gaviria, former minister of Colombia's Medellin Cartel, and by another unnamed Colombian trafficker.

The Justice Ministry said it could not comment on the report and officials at the two banks could not be reached.

Gaviria, a cousin of Colombian drug chief Pablo Escobar, was shot dead in a police assault of his home in Medellin earlier this month. He had been sought for extradition by Spain on drug charges.

El Pais, quoting sources close to the investigation, said a total of \$1.1 million had been deposited in the three accounts in Madrid and in the northern town of Gijon.

Colombian police who stormed Gaviria's home found record of bank accounts in Spain and passed on the information to their Spanish colleagues through Interpol, it said.

Investigators suspect more Medellin cartel drug money has been deposited in Spain, El Pais said.

Spain's seven largest banks, including Bilbao Vizcaya and Santander, recently took steps to crack down on laundering of drug money in line with an international code of conduct adopted this year in Basel, Switzerland.

The Spanish Banking Association said at the time the absence of banking secrecy in Spain would make it easier for the banks to cooperate with police and judicial authorities.

## Charles to undergo arm operation

LONDON (R) — Prince Charles, heir to the British throne, arrived at a hospital in central England Friday for a second operation on the arm which he broke in a polo accident two months ago. The 41-year-old prince will undergo the three-hour operation Saturday as a patient on Britain's National Health Service.

Surgeons will take a piece of bone from his hip to help to heal his right arm and will screw a metal plate to the bone. He is expected to spend up to 10 days in a hospital ward which has not been regularly used because it is earmarked for development. "The ward is a normal ward," hospital manager Nigel Clifton said.

"Contrary to rumour, the beige-coloured curtains are old. In fact, there is actually a hole in one of them now." The prince was accompanied by a small security team and some aides. He will also have his own chef, which Clifton said would relieve pressure on hospital catering.

The operation is not unusual but may affect the prince's future as a polo player. Surgeons say he may be left with a "stiffish elbow" which could end his playing days.

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## Andorra to get 1st penal code

ANDORRA LA VELLA (R) — The 700-year-old principality of Andorra, nestled in the Pyrenees between France and Spain, will get its first penal code Saturday.

Prostitution, pornography, money-laundering and abortion are among the crimes given tough treatment in a code that replaces the present inconsistent mix of customary and Roman law. The code takes effect as the principality prepares to introduce its first constitution, in a bid to bring Andorra, co-governed by the French president and the bishop of Urgell, a nearby Spanish town, into the modern age.

The territory of 465 square kilometres and 50,000 people has long thrived on smuggling and its status as a tax haven but now taking steps to clean up its image. The new code confirms the abolition of the death penalty, last applied in 1943, but sets sentences of up to six years for prostitution, 30 months for distributing pornography and up to six years for people carrying out abortions. Mothers would be subject to two-and-a-half years in jail. The maximum sentence for murder is 30 years.

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## Bail set at \$1 million for suspected Florida killer

GAINESVILLE, Florida (AP) — Dozens of men were under scrutiny in the slayings of five college students, but attention focused on an 18-year-old University of Florida freshman charged with assaulting his grandmother.

Edward Louis Humphrey, 18, was jailed with bail set at \$1 million and authorities acknowledged Friday he was being investigated in the slayings that have paralysed this northern Florida town.

Police sealed his apartment and searched for clues in the garage. "There's a lot of good information that we have received that seems to bear some credence that he may be a possible suspect," police Lt. Sadie Darnell said.

Humphrey was among as many as 100 people being checked out by homicide detectives, Darnell said. About 600 law enforcement officials are involved in the hunt.

Also mentioned was Warren Virgil Tinch, a fugitive wanted in an Ohio mutilation murder who was allegedly spotted in Gainesville and nearby Ocala about a week before the slayings.

The victims — students at either the University of Florida or Santa FE Community College in Gainesville — were found stab-

bed to death Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

Investigators said three of the four women were mutilated, and that the killer appeared to have a grudge against petite brunettes with shoulder-length hair.

A woman who lived at the Gatorwood apartments where the bodies of the last two victims — roommates Tracy Inez Pauls and Manuel R. Taboada — were found told the Sun-Sentinel in Fort Lauderdale that Humphrey had a "major crush on Tracy."